The National

Future Farmer

October-November, 1979

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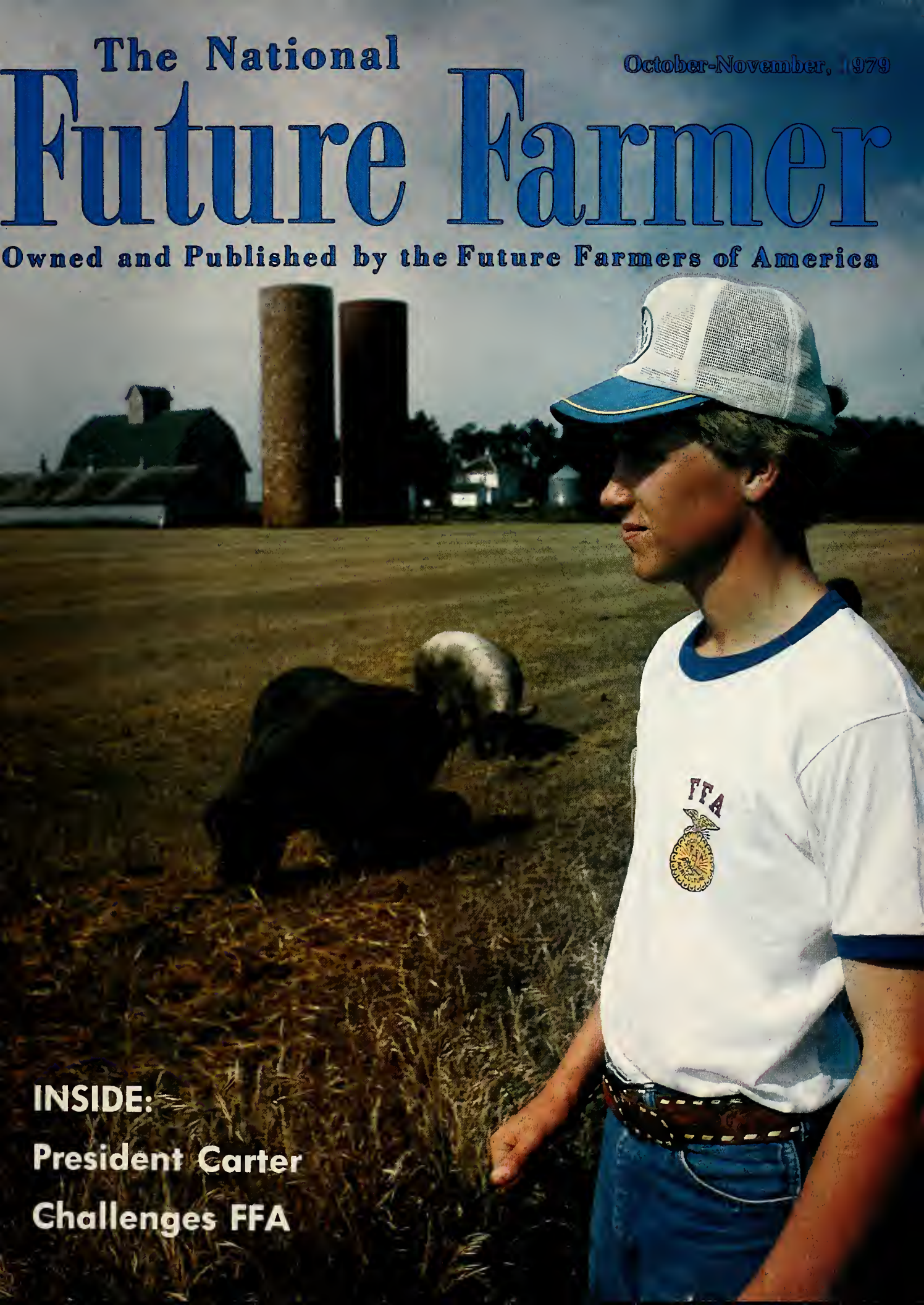

INSIDE:

President Carter Challenges FFA

Youth and Santa Gertrudis

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A Word With The Editor

President Carter presented a challenge to FFA members when the state presidents visited with him at the White House. He said, "I ask you to take the lead among all other youth groups in the United States in our war for energy security."

It is very appropriate for the President to present this challenge to youth. No one has a greater stake in the conservation of energy than the youth of America. They are the ones who will reap the benefits to the fullest extent.

It is also appropriate that youth in agriculture—the FFA—should be asked to take the lead. How could the industry of agriculture function without energy?

Every FFA chapter in the nation should pick up the challenge. For more information about how you can do that, see pages 16-17.

The FFA National Hall of Achievement. Sounds great, doesn't it? Preserving the past that it remain an inspiration for the future. That is an opportunity offered to all FFA members of today. For the first time ever, FFA chapters, members and other individuals are being asked to join with the National FFA Foundation to raise the necessary money to make this dream come true. Already, 10,000 FFA members have accepted the responsibility and you can join them. There is more on page 10, telling how you can become a part of the action.

Perhaps you didn't notice but the magazine you are holding is different from your last copy. We have changed printers. This issue was printed and mailed by Dayton Press, of Dayton, Ohio, the new printer. There are other changes, too. Some of the styles of type have been changed and we now use computer set photo type instead of hot metal, or the lead type used in the past. We hope you find this effort to update and modernize your magazine pleasing.

Wilson Carnes

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The Cover

Jeffrey Miller gazes across a freshly mown field on his Nebraska farmstead. Jeff, whose story starts on page 56, is one example of FFA members involved in the livestock industry. This issue focuses on production of livestock.

Cover photo by Jeffrey Tennant

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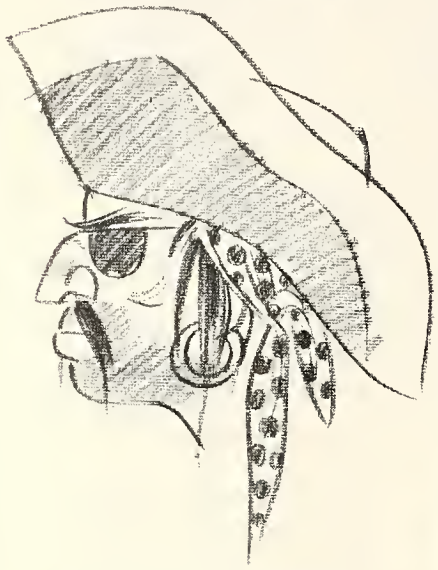

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The FFA

NEWS IN BRIEF

THREE PROPOSED amendments to the national FFA constitution have been approved by the Board of Directors for delegate consideration. Official delegates at the upcoming National FFA Convention may now discuss for parliamentary action a Texas amendment on number of delegates, a Connecticut amendment on adding a parliamentarian as an FFA office and a Michigan amendment on revising opening and closing ceremonies.

FFA's BOARD OF DIRECTORS, shown in session above, acted on a variety of business items during the meeting held July 23-26. National Advisor Byron Rawls presided over the board, his first time. Finalized items included the approval of 788 candidates for the 1979 American Farmer degree and regional Star Farmer and Agribusiness nominees.

A $2,000 CONTRIBUTION to the FFA Hall of Achievement came from the Wisconsin FFA Alumni, reports Bernie Staller, FFA Foundation executive director. The gift, largest by an FFA alumni association to date, qualifies the Wisconsin Alumni as a national gold sponsor of FFA. Staller added that over 10,000 members have contributed $1 or more to the Hall of Achievement campaign. In other Foundation news, Farmland Foods, Inc., and Chevron Chemical Company now support FFA as special project co-sponsor and gold sponsor, respectively.

AMERICAN ROYAL Association, sponsor of the American Royal Livestock show and rodeo, reports collapse of the Kemper Arena roof will not affect Royal events. The Kansas City show, held in conjunction with the National FFA Convention, will be moved from Kemper to the older American Royal Arena. Royal officials report extensive building renovation in progress.

A SPECIAL RECEPTION in Kansas City for the 1979 Honorary American Farmer degree recipients will be coordinated by the national FFA Alumni Association. The reception, financed by Delmar Publishers, will recognize the efforts of this year's 163 honorary degree winners. The Alumni's annual meeting will be on November 7 and 8 in Kansas City's H. Roe Bartle Center.

ALF CALDWELL, a holder of FFA's State Farmer degree, will coordinate arrangements for the 1979 National FFA Convention and National Agricultural Career Show. Alf, a past member of the Paris, Tennessee, FFA Chapter, was employed as an exposition center facility manager before assuming duties as assistant manager of the Kansas City Convention Center. As a student at Murray State University in Kentucky, Alf earned all-conference football honors as a linebacker. The Tennessee native also served as team advisor for the Murray State rodeo team.

HEADING OVERSEAS recently were 17 anxious FFA members on their way to live and work with host families in ten foreign countries. The September outbound group brought the number of American FFA members participating in Work Experience Abroad to 47. Applications for placement overseas by next June are now being accepted at the National FFA Center. The International Department will have information on WEA and other programs at the National FFA Convention and career show. Below, participants leave the FFA Center on the first leg of the journey abroad.

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LOOKING AHEAD

HOLIDAY FOODS should be plentiful for upcoming traditional feasts such as Thanksgiving. The USDA puts number of turkeys raised this year at nearly 158 million, up 13 percent from last year and a record high. A record high cranberry crop is also in the forecast, with Massachusetts leading the way as the nation's major cranberry producer. Depending on consumer demand, both turkeys and cranberries should be reasonable buys for the holiday season.

TODAY'S FARMS are capital-intensive, averaging more than $250,000 in capital investment. Extension service economists with North Carolina State University say the biggest capital item is land, and land prices have tripled over the past 12 years. Farmland prices are expected to continue to rise, even with changing commodity prices, rapidly increasing farm production costs and record high interest rates. The economists say land prices are the greatest barrier for young people wishing entry into farming.

U.S. FARM EXPORTS totaled $27.3 billion in fiscal year 1978, which ended last September 30, 14 percent above the previous year, according to a USDA report. The ten major exporting states were, in order: Illinois, Iowa, Texas, California, Minnesota, Indiana, Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri and Ohio. Soybeans, feedgrains, wheat, cotton and tobacco comprised 71 percent of the total U.S. agricultural export value in fiscal 1978.

OKRA may one day be a strong source of protein and oil for nations in the tropical belt. The USDA's Science and Education Administration and University of Puerto Rico scientists have found okra to have a protein production potential second only to wheat and soybeans. Okra also could compete with safflower in oil production. Additionally, some varieties of okra competed with or exceeded soybeans, sesame, peanuts and castor. In some areas, such as Brazil, okra is so trouble-free that it is known as a crop that always pays. Protein and oil can be precipitated by simple techniques.

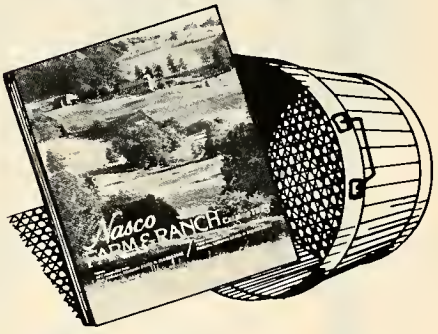
JAPAN remains the leading agricultural market for the United States, according to Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland. "There is a tendency to forget that Russia is only one of scores of countries that buy U.S. farm products," Bergland said. "Japan bought more U.S. feed grains last year than any other country, including Russia, and it has been doing that for the past ten years or more. It was our best customer for wheat and second as a market for U.S. soybeans." Bergland said the U.S. shipped 20 million tons of wheat, feed grains and soybeans to Japan in 1978, 5 million tons more than to the Soviet Union.

ELECTRICAL STIMULATION appears to be the method of choice for the future to increase tenderness in meat. Electrical stimulation of carcasses can increase tenderness by 25 percent, says Dr. Steven Seideman, assistant professor of meat science at South Dakota State University. Seideman says the USDA quality grade has also been raised by 9 percent on electrical stimulated sides as compared to non-stimulated paired sides. Other methods of tenderization discussed for use by meat retailers include use of plant enzymes, natural aging, marinades and high temperature aging.

SODIUM BICARBONATE added to complete dairy rations may help fresh cows adapt to high energy rations, improving both feed intake and milk production, research at Pennsylvania State University indicates. Many dairy cows are fed large amounts of hay and little grain during the dry period, explain Penn State scientists. After calving, cows are switched abruptly to high concentrate (high energy) ratios in order to meet the energy demands necessary for high milk production. The abrupt change often results in excess rumen acidity and other metabolic problems, a situation that could be buffered by doses of sodium bicarbonate.

U.S. FARMERS today produce 2½ times as much per man-hour of work as in 1960—and more than ten times as much as in 1930. Gains in farm productivity, particularly since World War II, have been startling. Forty years ago, for example, an acre of corn yielded only 20 bushels. Last year, the national average yield for this most widely planted of all U.S. crops was just above 100 bushels to the acre. World population reached four billion last year and is expected to double within 35 years, reaching eight billion by the year 2014. Just to maintain present diets around the world will also require a doubling of global food production.

Supplies by the bushel



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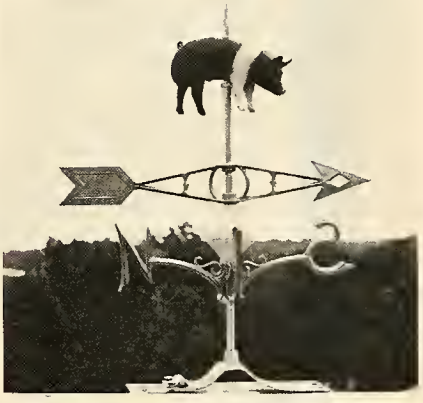

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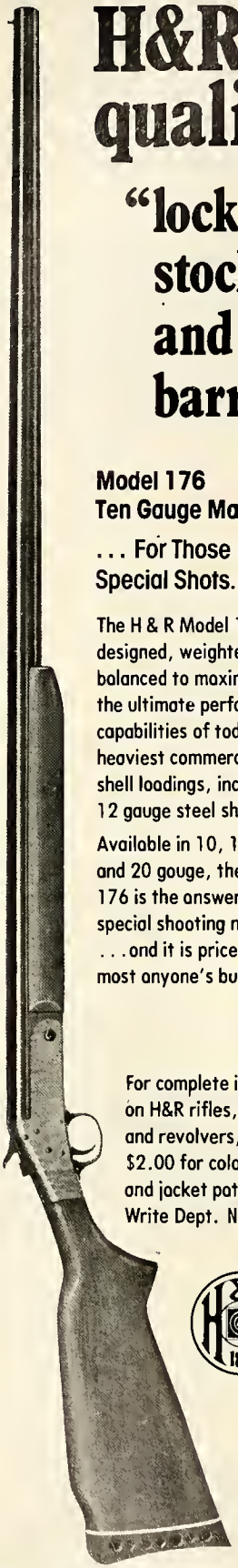

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Readers Report

MAILBAG

Broken Arrow, Oklahoma

I read your article in the August-September issue, the one that says "Putting A Stop To Soring."

I have shown and trained walking horses for many years. This kind of article gives the walking horse a bad name. We now have pretty clean horses.

I would like to see an article on the five- and three-gaited horses. Also I would like to see an article that talks about the good of the walking horse.

I wouldn't mind being interviewed and some others that own walking horses.

Tim Bunyard

Baltimore, Maryland

I read with much interest your excellent article entitled "The Lime Drivin' Kid," which appeared in the August-September issue. It was very well written. We in Maryland are proud of Jan and appreciate your interest in her. Thanks for promoting Maryland and the FFA.

If I can be of assistance to you in identifying other topics or FFA members as you prepare articles for the magazine, please do not hesitate to call.

David A. Miller
FFA Executive Secretary

Morton, Wyoming

Last May when our school's FFA chapter held its annual awards banquet, I was in the hospital feeling sorry for myself because I would have to miss the banquet and the guest speaker National President Mark Sanborn. I had been attending these banquets for several years, as a teacher and later, as a parent and a school board member—I really hated to miss this one.

There was a chance that my daughter, Pat, was going to meet Mark at the airport and take him out to our school. I half-jokingly told her that if they had five minutes to spare to bring Mark around to the hospital so I could meet him. Pat did not go to the airport, but she did talk to Mark Sanborn after the banquet. I don't know what she and her ag advisor Terry Slack told him, but the following evening I had a delightful surprise when two of our students and Mark Sanborn walked into my hospital room. We had a very nice visit and it really made my day. Two months later, it still gives me a very warm, good feeling. This young man had a very busy schedule, is having a very busy year and yet he managed to take time out to spend a half-hour of his valuable time to come to a hospital to see someone he didn't even know. That kind of thoughtfulness is rare these days. I just wanted to let you all know what an outstanding national president all you FFA'ers have.

Alice M. Hoopengarner

Raleigh, North Carolina

As a former public speaking contest winner while in high school and one who frequently makes presentations before groups, I found your article "502 Seconds . . ." very interesting.

However, I would like to point out that very few public speeches are given from "behind the podium." Nearly all of them use a "lectern" such as that one pictured on page 14 of your August-September, 1979, issue! A "podium" is a raised platform most frequently used by an orchestra conductor.

Reese Edwards
Extension Radio-TV Editor
North Carolina State University

Owasso, Oklahoma

I am about to start my sophomore year in FFA. I have only received four editions of the magazine so far but I want to congratulate your staff on having the best magazine in the United States today.

I think it brings importance of agriculture and has already helped me decide my career in agriculture.

Thanks for fifty golden years in *The National FUTURE FARMER*. I really appreciate your time and concern put into this magazine.

Lemuel Draper

APO, New York

I just received my magazine. The reason it took so long to arrive here is because it went by boat. I'm in the Air Force stationed in England now. I really enjoy reading your magazine. You all do fantastic work, keep it up.

I'm here for two years, and I'll be looking forward every month to receiving the Future Farmer. A friend in the Air Force.

Jeffrey Thomas

East Springfield, Pennsylvania

I have now taken over publication of the newsletter "Toy Farm Equipment" which is being changed to "Miniature Tractor & Implement."

Enclosed is a copy of an advertisement for the new publication.

Two requests: 1) Would it be possible for me to reprint the article on Micro Mini Tractor Pull by Rod Vahl in its entirety in my publication? 2) Would it be possible to give some kind of promotion to my publication either as a paid ad or an article that I could prepare on collecting miniature farm models?

I am a vocational agriculture instructor and do the publication as a hobby. I first became interested in models when I was an FFA member about 25 years ago. I also have a book being published on the subject "Collecting Model Farm Toys of the World."

Raymond E. Crilley

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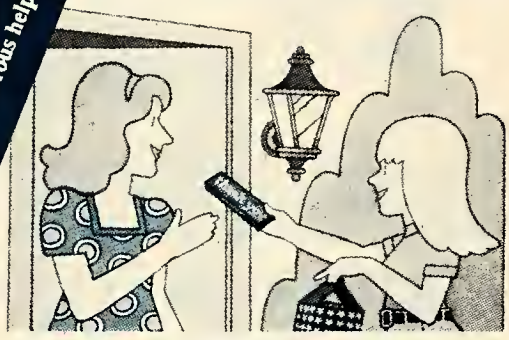

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The FFA Hall of Achievement

THE FFA Foundation's drive to raise money for the FFA Hall of Achievement is meeting with success. Contributors to date include 10,000 FFA members, Alumni groups, major companies and other individuals. The drive is still going on with special effort planned for this fall that will reach every FFA chapter across the nation.

The drive for the FFA Hall of Achievement started last winter (see February-March, 1979, issue, page 11) and will continue until the $600,000 goal is reached. The drive is headed by Roland M. Hendrickson, president of the Agricultural Division of Pfizer, Inc., a former teacher of vocational agriculture who also is chairman-elect of the FFA Foundation Sponsoring Committee for 1980.

The Hall of Achievement will serve FFA members nationwide as a center for learning. It will contain many exhibits and displays that will tell the story of FFA and agriculture. It is expected that the facility will provide reference books, documents, research papers, studies and specialized magazines giving the most recent ideas, techniques and approaches used today in agriculture, agribusiness and the natural resource field. These materials will be compiled from sources throughout the nation. The Hall of Achievement will be located at the National FFA Center, near Alexandria, Virginia.

Contributions for the Hall of Achievement are coming from many sources.

Several exhibits will be sponsored by industry. To date, these companies have made commitments.

The Milestones of Progress will be sponsored by Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. This major exhibit area is a quick historical review of the early growth of agriculture in the nation. A special "time-line" graphic history will then present major milestones in the history of FFA.

The FFA Library is sponsored by Deere & Company. This will be a resource center serving the information needs of current and future students in all fields of agriculture. Deere & Company will also sponsor the Auditorium Gallery.

The "Learning To Do" exhibit area will be sponsored by Pfizer, Inc., Agricultural Division. The exhibit will show career areas to which FFA members aspire: agricultural production, mechanics, horticulture, processing, supply and service, forestry and natural resources.

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Planning The 52nd National Convention

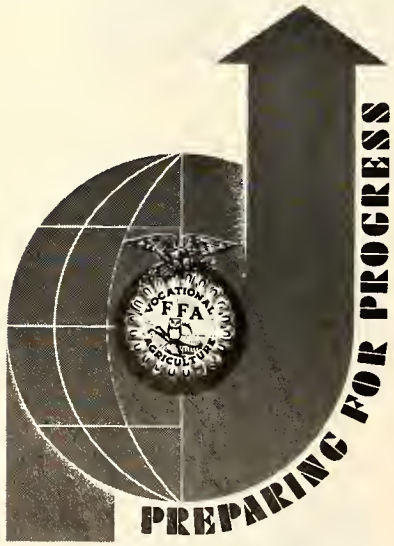
FOR many FFA chapters, the National FFA Convention is the culmination of a year's hard work.

Similarly, many of the organization's most involved members end their high school career in FFA with the tap of the gavel adjourning the annual national gathering.

The 52nd National Convention will take place in Kansas City, Missouri, as it has since 1928. Your national officers and staff have already done most of the ground work to make this year's meeting November 7-9, 1979, of FFA members a great one.

Besides staff involvement, there is the often unrecognized work of the Kansas City advisory committee. This group of interested citizens meets prior to the convention to make sure things go as planned for the largest convention that comes to their city.

This year's convention will have some new features—particularly the first ever national finals for an extemporaneous public speaking contest. Another feature is the expanded National Agricultural Career Show. This year's show will be in the H. Roe Bartle Exhibition Hall where it is located to accommodate more exhibits by national Foundation sponsors as well as many advertisers that appear within the pages of *The National FUTURE FARMER* magazine.



The Convention olso will serve as an introduction for the 1980 FFA theme Preparing For Progress.

The show will continue to feature exhibits by agricultural-related trade organizations, professional societies and government agencies. A cafeteria for members and advisors will be located in the show area along with a stage spotlighting FFA talent groups entertaining during the convention.

Those successful leadership workshops sponsored by the FFA Alumni the past two years will be available once more. Group and personal dynamics, public speaking and career orientation are topics that will be explored during the different workshops.

Last year over 1,200 members packed each of the workshop sessions. This year, a session has been added to accommodate even more members.

Action on the main convention floor will continue at the brisk, exciting pace that has made the convention famous. The final judging of the prepared public speaking contest on Wednesday night is likely to pack the Municipal Auditorium and the excitement won't decrease. Conferring of American Farmer degrees, the FFA Talent Show and the naming of the two "Stars Over America" on Thursday night will pave the way for the election of six new National FFA Officers on Friday.

Well-known speakers spaced through the program will come from a diversity of fields and interests. Already slated to appear on stage are Dr. Robert Schuller, a famed orator on the power of positive thinking; Cotton Ivy, called "the new Will Rogers" and a rousing humorist; Stella Parton, this year's American Royal show star entertainer. Leaders in government and agriculture will likely appear as well as yet another celebrity speaker.

The American Royal is to be the attraction on Friday afternoon as FFA Day unfolds with a rodeo and special entertainment. The famous American Royal parade will be on November 3, the Saturday prior to the FFA Convention.

National President Mark Sanborn, in his Call To The Convention, wrote to chapters who will send representatives:

"We want you to make the most of your trip to Kansas City by planning to participate in the convention sessions, agricultural career exhibits, leadership training programs and contests. Plan ahead to take advantage of this opportunity to meet FFA representatives, delegates and officers from all over the United States. Share your ideas with them and see how you can improve your chapter."

The national officers remind fellow members who attend any convention, contest or FFA event to remember the dress code and Code of Ethics for all members.

1979 CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

Tuesday, November 6

9:00 a.m.	Early Registration
1:00 p.m.	Opening of The National Agricultural Career Show—H. Roe Bartle
	Tours to Points of Interest
2:00 p.m.	Business Session—Auditorium
7:30 p.m.	Vespers Program—National Officers

Wednesday, November 7

8:00 a.m.	Registrations
	Meats Contest
8:30 a.m.	Farm Business Management Contest
	Milk Quality and Dairy Foods Contest
9:00 a.m.	Opening Session—FFA Convention
	National Chapter Safety Awards
	FFA Alumni, Opening Session—Bartle
10:00 a.m.	Dairy Cattle Contest
12:30 p.m.	Agricultural Mechanics Contest
1:00 p.m.	National FFA Leadership Workshops—Conducted by FFA Alumni
	Horticulture Contest
2:00 p.m.	Second Convention Session
	National Extemporaneous Public Speaking Contest
	Delegate Business Session
3:00 p.m.	National FFA Leadership Workshops
7:30 p.m.	Third Convention Session
	National FFA Band Concert
	National Prepared Public Speaking Contest

Thursday, November 8

7:00 a.m.	Livestock Contest
9:00 a.m.	Poultry Contest
	Fourth Convention Session
	Agricultural Proficiency Awards
	BOAC Awards
	National Chapter Awards
	FFA Alumni, Second Session
1:00 p.m.	National FFA Leadership Workshops
2:00 p.m.	Fifth Convention Session
	Honorary American Farmer Degrees
	American Farmer Degrees
3:00 p.m.	National FFA Leadership Workshops
6:45 p.m.	National FFA Talent Show
7:45 p.m.	Sixth Convention Session
	Sponsor Recognition
	FFA Foundation
	Stars Over America Pageant

Friday, November 9

9:15 a.m.	Seventh Convention Session
	International Activities
	Announcement of Judging Contest Winners
	Election of 1979-80 National Officers
1:00 p.m.	FFA Day at the American Royal
7:00 p.m.	Closing Convention Session
	Installation of 1979-80 National Officers
	Special Entertainment

Hopefully, in light of the energy crisis, chapters will also honor the attendance policy of the organization and limit the number of chapter delegates to six members or 10 percent of chapter membership, not including individual award winners.

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The

Accompanied by the National FFA Officers, President Carter addresses the State Presidents' Conference participants.

Photo by Jeffrey Tennant

PRESIDENT Jimmy Carter raised his eyes from the lectern before him, slowly scanning his guests in blue and gold jackets. The Rose Garden that graces the White House lawn became hushed, a silence that would break only with the president's words. FFA officers gathered in the garden sensed the challenge already.

"I today ask you," the president began, ". . . to take the lead among all other youth groups in the United States in the war for energy security. I am asking every FFA chapter in this country to get involved . . . in conserving energy and in finding new ways to use it more efficiently. It has to come from you. I cannot do it for you. Are you willing to accept the challenge?"

With that, resounding applause from the state and national FFA officers signaled a hearty commitment. The president had identified adequate supplies of fuel and food as most important provisions for world security. He had also identified those he will rely on to provide: "I am going to depend upon the FFA to take the lead in energy conservation. Our nation desperately needs you, and I am sure that our nation will not be disappointed in you."

After his speech, the president greeted each of his guests.

Photo by Bill Stagg

President's Challenge

The national advisor responds:

Byron Rawls

"THE president has identified the two most pressing world problems as fuel and food. We're definitely involved in both of them. But FFA can be involved in the solution as well as the problem.

"This is an opportunity directed even to the member of the smallest chapter in this country. He or she is being addressed by the president of the United States through the FFA regarding a national problem.

"The presidential challenge is not a new contest or program. It ties right in with already existing FFA programs—the BOAC program as an example. The challenge is a thread that can tie almost all of our existing award programs together.

"Energy permeates almost everything we do. FFA members, whether production or agribusiness oriented, can all help conserve energy. This is a challenge to the FFA member's imagination—to create new and better ways to accomplish today's tasks. For instance, we might answer the question of how to plow the same field with half the fuel.

"I believe the president was very sincere in selecting the FFA as a vehicle through which he could demonstrate youth's concern with a national problem. When a youth expresses serious concern about a problem, adults will listen."

The national president accepts:

Mark Sanborn

AT 10:20 a.m. on July 19, 1979, Mark Sanborn thanked President Jimmy Carter for allowing members of the FFA to congregate at the White House. A plaque was given the president, and then the chief of state spoke, issuing his unique challenge to FFA. A few minutes later, Mark accepted on behalf of all FFA members the president's invitation to face and solve our national problems with food and fuel:

"Mr. President, before you stands a group that eagerly accepts constructive challenge. You asked us to join our hands and our hearts in addressing the problem of the energy that you mentioned.

"We want you to know that we have already joined our hands and hearts in accepting your guidance and direction in doing whatever we can as future farmers.

"We will directly accept your challenge in two ways. First, by addressing the challenge you presented and encouraging chapters across the United States to participate actively in energy conservation. But secondly, we pledge to you that we will continue to train and develop the kind of young people with leadership, citizenship, skills and abilities that have made you great as president of the United States—the qualities that have produced such a great leader like yourself.

"Mr. President, we gladly accept your challenge."

The Challenge Is *Yours*

NOW it's up to you. You can be the spark that starts the fire among your chapter members; fire them up for the fight. The president is counting on FFA to come through. A commitment to join in the battle for energy security is all he's asking.

Many chapters are busy formulating plans to participate in "The President's Challenge." One chapter has already vowed to win. President Carter plans to present a special presidential award to the one FFA chapter that does the most outstanding job in carrying out a fight against the energy crisis. But mere participation in the program, regardless of who wins the award, will better you, your chapter and community.

Six major energy-emphasis topics have been outlined to spark ideas for action among the nation's FFA chapters. For instance, chapters can work in areas of increasing energy efficiency in crop and livestock production, agricultural processing and marketing and greenhouse and nursery operations. Other topics include reducing home energy and highway fuel consumption; reducing school, business, factory and community building energy consumption and increasing general energy conservation awareness.

Each of these areas lends itself well to many opportunities for you and your chapter to implement ideas in the "war for energy security." An "ideas for action" packet is available by writing The President's Challenge, % National FFA Center, P.O. Box 15160, Alexandria, Virginia 22309. A commitment card and information on the challenge has been mailed to your chapter advisor. The card may also be used to obtain the action packet.

The program will run from August, 1979, through June 15, 1980. A committee comprised of representatives from the White House; U.S. departments of energy, transportation and agriculture and the U.S. Office of Education will judge chapter involvement on the state and national level.

"I am going to depend upon you," said President Carter, "to pay the personal prices in your own lives necessary to guarantee the freedom of this nation through restoring our energy security." FFA members, the challenge is yours.

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Getting an Alumni Going

This chapter found the Alumni was easy to start and fast to grow.

By Robert Brown

ON June 1, 1978, a charter meeting for signing alumni members and forming the LeRoy, Illinois, FFA Alumni Chapter was held at the community room of the local bank. Ten members must be signed to form a chapter. At this first meeting about 30 members were signed, officers were elected, dues were paid, a roster was completed, a constitution adopted and a plan of action was established.

One of the first goals, other than receiving a plaque for the chapter, was to obtain recognition for the Alumni Affiliate by securing at least as many Alumni members as there were FFA chapter members.

In order to insure the success of the FFA Alumni Affiliate, meetings were held to a minimum—two chapter meetings per year and executive committee meetings as needed. Executive meetings have been used to plan activities and to secure people to assist with those jobs as necessary, then to analyze the results of completed activities and programs. The first FFA chapter meeting of the year was held in August before school started to allow the new Alumni members and chapter members to get acquainted. Following a pot-luck hamburger cook-out and softball at the city park, a short meeting was held to jointly plan activities.

By the end of August some activities had already been completed. The Alumni had helped chapter members plant the FFA corn plot and participated in a Corn Plot Field Day. Some Alumni members had attended the state FFA convention and helped with the section FFA fair.

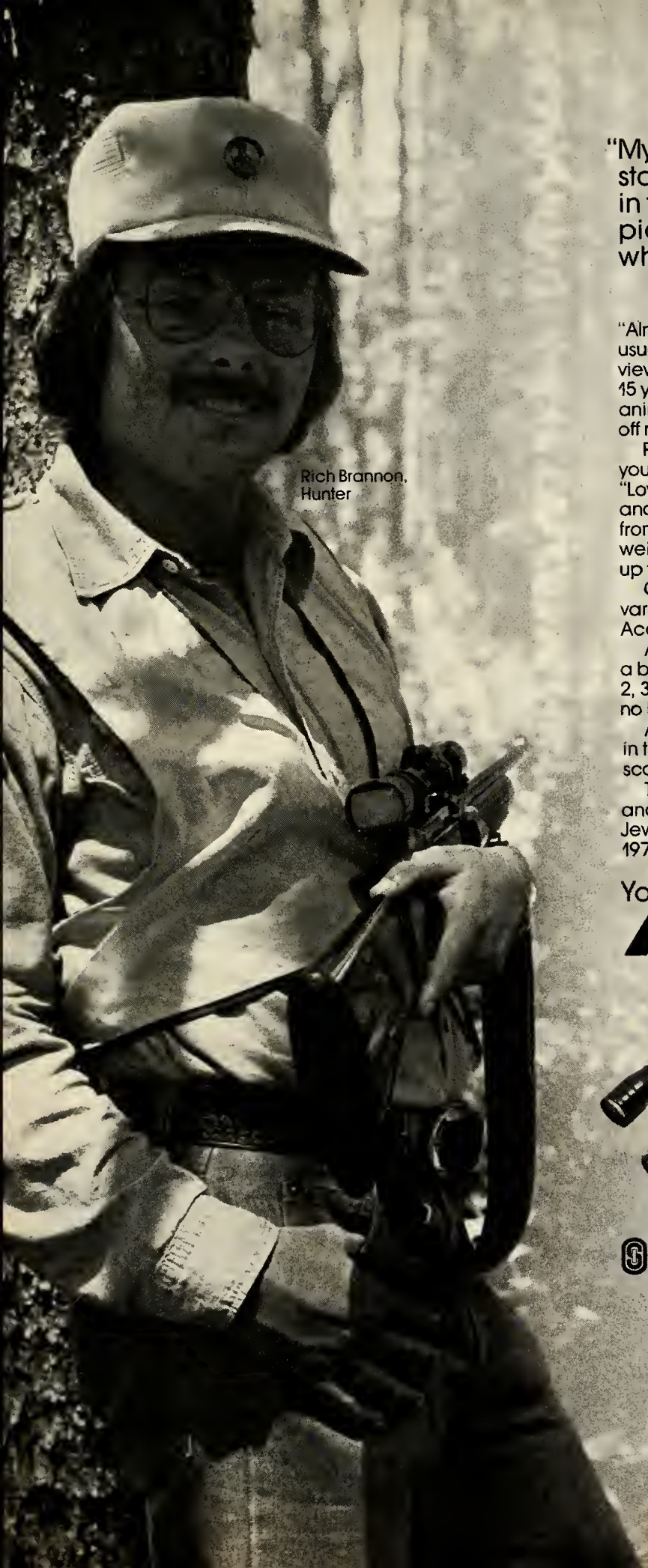
After the start of school FFA members and the FFA Alumni members had cooperatively harvested the FFA corn plot, held a chapter land-use judging contest, operated a football concession stand, judged a chapter parliamentary procedure contest consisting of seven chapter teams, participated in the National FFA Convention as national Alumni delegates from Illinois, provided drivers to FFA events and helped prepare FFA members for livestock and meats judging contests.

At the winter Alumni Affiliate meeting held at a local smorgasbord, the executive secretary of the Illinois vo-ag teachers was the guest speaker. A summary of the Alumni's activities and future plans were discussed. Alumni "Service Awards" were initiated and three were presented to members that had provided excellent leadership and outstanding services to better both chapters.

These accomplishments are quite remarkable considering the Alumni chapter had been in existence only a little over six months. Furthermore, the members' activities were not yet complete. During the winter and spring seasons, the Alumni continued to prepare FFA members for livestock, crops, meat, milk, dairy and speaking contests; provided drivers to functions; judged at FFA contests in the chapter, sectional and district levels; assisted FFA members with record books for State Farmer degrees and foundation awards; participated in the FFA chapter's parent-member banquet; and continued to supply the monies for plaques for FFA members that win at chapter contests.

Alumni member Steve Jiles and Advisor Bob Brown checking on FFA corn plot.

Keith Mathews assisting with the FFA crops contest sponsored by the Alumni.



Rich Brannon,
Hunter

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Jeff and Hunter Willette have hit upon a niche, and a market, in the veal industry.

Jeff, left, and Hunter Willette stand behind two of the pens that hold Holstein bull calves for a 15-week period.

A HARD winter's snow drifted into high piles against the Willette family's veal barn. With the coming of evening, North Carolina hilltop thermometers dropped well below freezing. The barn, with no heating units or mechanical means to raise the temperature, should become too cold for the well-being of the 108 veal calves being raised inside. However, the calves seem comfortable, bellowing for supper.

Inside, brothers Jeff and Hunter Willette busily shuffle large white milk buckets from one wooden pen to the next, hurrying to supply each calf with a bucket of its own. They aren't hurrying because it's cold, though. In fact, the room temperature is a pleasant 55 degrees. Wearing only his Bartlett-Yancey, North Carolina, FFA jacket, Jeff's the first to explain the barn's warmth.

"It's called natural ventilation," he says, taking a break from the feeding chores. "Most barns use forced air systems for heating but this one uses vents and natural slope to manipulate temperature. The barn has a 6-12 pitch, which means that every 12 feet there's a six-inch rise. The roof also has insulation panels. The pitch, opening of the eaves and insulation can be used to create a convection current to heat or cool the air."

The barn, 42 by 80 feet, is divided into three separate rooms. Ridge ventilators allow air to escape from the top and air intakes are constructed on the floor level. Air movement is controlled by adjusting top and bottom ventilators in each room. Year round temperatures never exceed 90 degrees nor drop below 50 degrees. But the barn itself isn't the only unique item in the Willette operation. The narrow calf pens have a story, too.

The feeding done, Hunter and Jeff move to the inviting family home, a sprawling log house built by the Willettes and filled with western decor, wood stoves and antiques.

"Each room in the barn has two rows of calf pens," continues Jeff, warming his hands over a den stove. "We buy them from the Amish people in Pennsylvania. They do good woodwork for a reasonable price. The pens are also unique in that they can be completely disassembled for cleaning purposes."

The pens, made of white oak board, measure 2 by 5 feet and feature removable slatted bottoms and head-gates. "Also," chimes in Hunter, "the pens have squeeze boards that can be closed to prevent the calf from sticking its head out."

Each pen in the Willette barn holds a calf, usually young Holstein bulls. After delivery to the barn at the age of three days, calves are kept and fed for a 15-week period in the veal barn before being shipped to markets in the northeast.

"Most of the meat goes to ethnic groups," explains Jeff, his knowledge of the marketing aspect well-rounded. "Fancy Italian restaurants use veal for a variety of dishes, and hospitals buy it

(Continued on Page 33)

Al Willette talks with sons Jeff, Hunter and Bartlett-Yancey Advisors Chuck Sadler, far right, and Cy Vernon.

Veal barns should always be clean, dry and draft-free such as this Valleybrook Farm facility in upper New York.

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Alan Samber started with one sow, took time to study and found success.

Above, Alan's flock of show sheep seem to know who's carrying supper. Left, Alan surveys the sows in his confinement farrow-to-finish hog operation.

THE majestic Rocky Mountains, somewhat synonymous with the name Colorado, are yet to be seen upon entrance to Alan Samber's farm in Sterling, Colorado. Sterling lies in the northeastern part of the state, nestled between the great plains of the midwest and the range of the ancient Rockies. For an agriculturist, however, scenery is evident in the form of a most productive swine and sheep enterprise.

At age 18, Alan has amassed an enterprise of livestock numbering over 150 ewes and 75 sows. His total confinement hog operation teeters at near capacity with 1,200 head of swine under care at any one time. Indicative of his competence in the swine industry, Alan is national finalist of the western region in FFA's Swine Production proficiency award program.

Registered Hampshire sheep also roam the Samber place, some of which carry distinctions of blue ribbons from prestigious stock shows around the country.

A Sterling FFA member, Alan started with a supervised project of one crossbred sow, eight crossbred ewes and one ram. The chapter pig chain afforded Alan another sow, and since then, his interest in swine has never waned. In fact, expansion has always been his goal.

"When I started increasing the stock," Alan recalls, "I had to learn quickly about production management methods. Vo-ag helped but a lot of my information came from reading. I dug up some old animal husbandry books dating back to the '50s and read them all. Some of the rations suggested had peanuts in the them, something I never tried."

With 22 acres of corn, Alan grows most of his own feed for his animals. Presently, he doesn't plan on raising peanuts.

Alan and his brother, Johnny, 32, handle most of the chores on the farm. They've set up a 50-50 partnership, an arrangement that should allow for continued growth in both sheep and swine phases of the operation. Alan does spend time showing his registered Hampshires, an activity he feels pays off by exposing his quality stock.

"I show under my name and the Sterling FFA Chapter," he said. "My name has got to be associated with these expensive animals but the chapter gets some recognition, too, whenever I show."

Alan's enterprise has been a learn-as-you-go, pay-as-you-go growth process. From the beginning, he has increased both sheep and swine numbers by careful selling of lambs and litters and selective retention of quality stock. He won't be happy, though, until his 150-sow capacity farrow-to-finish operation is at full capacity.

"To achieve production growth, we get rid of animals," Alan says, ready to explain. "We go through a culling process every year. If a sow misses two estrous cycles, she goes to market. We can't afford retention of stock that won't reproduce adequately."

With the help of his father, George, Alan has constructed superior facilities for the purpose of handling hundreds of swine, from breeding to birth to fattening. The swine breeding phase is closely monitored, insuring a high conception rate and sow and litter health. The production cycle begins during the average three-day period of a sow's estrous period.

The 14-pen gestation barn becomes shelter for the pregnant sows for an average 112 days until parturition, or littering. During the gestation period, and especially near farrowing, the sows are fed an additive to improve pig vigor. "It's easy to get the sow too fat," cautions Alan, expounding on the virtues of the daily ration of corn, oats and milo. "You want the feed to provide nutrition for the pigs the sow is carrying. Over-fatted sows often have trouble during farrowing. We strive to maintain the sow's weight without adding fat."

Up-to-date records on each sow indicate when farrowing time is approaching. When the time is near, sows are transferred to a 28-crate farrowing house designed in four quarters. Since only 14 sows are moved from the smaller gestating barn, half the farrowing house is empty.

"Our reason for that," says Alan, "is primarily for cleaning purposes. Each

(Continued on Page 40)

End results of animal agriculture

Photos courtesy United Dairy Industry Assn., National Live Stock & Meat Board.

Working together, we can keep people well fed in our own country and others

Producers of meat and milk have a big job to do. Populations are growing—in our country and worldwide—along with a desire for more and better food.

With ever-changing agricultural technology, American farmers, ranchers and feeders rely more and more on outside assistance—from suppliers of educational help, financial counseling, veterinary service, feeds, other products and services.

As one of the many links in the food chain, we've steadily intensified our company's livestock nutrition research, product development and on-the-spot feed counseling with ranchers, farmers and feeders.

Also, we believe it's important to encourage young people who are interested in agriculture.

For more than 20 years, our contributions have helped honor outstanding FFA and 4-H members.

During the same period, we've steadily expanded our college scholarship program.

In the 1979-80 school year, outstanding ag students will be awarded MoorMan scholarships at 29 Land-Grant universities.

Within the limits of our resources, we'll continue to encourage young people. At the same time, we'll do our best to continue providing meat and milk producers with high-quality, high-performance feed products, equipment and on-the-spot feed counseling.

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A Junior PCA

A LOAN program has been established between the Central Valley Production Credit Association and the James Wood FFA Chapter in Winchester, Virginia. A cooperative effort between the two groups has resulted in the establishment of a Junior Production Credit Association (PCA) at James Wood High School. According to Robert Carpenter, general manager of Central Valley Production Credit Association, the main purpose of the Junior PCA is to "provide cooperative education, a financial training experience and financial assistance to FFA members. The educational aspect of the program is as important as the financial assistance."

Carpenter adds, "We see an ever increasing need for young farmers to be astute businessmen as well as efficient producers of agricultural commodities. They must be able to understand and utilize available credit effectively if they are to survive in this time of limited returns on high dollar investments."

The student-operated Junior PCA at James Wood is the only established program of its type in the Baltimore Farm Credit District (an area of five states). A student loan committee and a group of four student loan officers are the backbone of the program.

To apply for a loan, a chapter member merely contacts one of the student loan officers and submits an application. The loan officer then makes a brief investigation and develops a completed credit report with a recommendation to the student loan committee.

Members of the student loan committee come from each of the four vocational agriculture options at James Wood; production, business, horticulture and mechanics. Robert Harper, instructor of the agribusiness option, serves as advisor to the committee. The committee carefully considers each loan application and then makes a final recommendation to the Central Valley Production Credit Association. Central Valley then approves or rejects each loan request.

Roger L. Crosen, credit manager for Central Valley, coordinates the Junior PCA program and provides basic training to interested FFA members. Students receive instruction in completing financial statements and providing information necessary to obtain a loan. They are advised as to collateral requirements and the implications of failing to meet scheduled loan payments. The financial and farm management information will be beneficial to the Future Farmers, enabling them to better operate their own business or agricultural enterprises.

Billy Schuller receives the first Junior PCA check from Mr. Robert N. Carpenter, general manager, Central Valley PCA.

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The Star American Farmers

Eight finalists were selected from the 788 candidates for the American Farmer degree which recognized achievements in production agriculture and agribusiness. One will be chosen Star Farmer, and another Star Agribusinessman of America at the National FFA Convention.

Star Farmers

Southern Region

Steven E. Burke, 21, of Millen, Georgia, says he'll "expand in every direction" to become a successful farmer. Farming over 300 acres and raising 20,000 layers, Steven is rapidly approaching his goal.

In his first year of FFA, Steven had 18 acres of corn, soybeans, peanuts and rye, 15 head of hogs and 4 head of cattle. Today, through his involvement in vocational agriculture and the FFA, Steven's 375-acre diversified operation includes a wide variety of crops, 50 hogs and 20 cattle. He has also designed and constructed a 460-foot poultry laying house which houses 20,000 birds.

"The old axiom 'There is more in the man than there is in the land' certainly holds true with Steve," says Thomas Claxton, Jenkins County FFA advisor. "He has been able to take a farm described by some neighbors as too poor to grow a crop and turn it into a very profitable operation in only three short years."

Steve makes all feeding and management decisions for his laying hens and employs a worker to gather the eggs. He recently installed an irrigation system for his corn and plans to expand its use in the future.

In his FFA chapter, Steve served as president, vice president and chairman of many committees. He received the southern regional Soil and Water Management proficiency award in 1975, and was runner-up for Star State Farmer of Georgia.

Central Region

Dennis Ringhofer, 21, of Owatonna, Minnesota, wrote in his first year of FFA, "my goal is to buy the home farm from my parents and expand our dairy operation." Now, seven years later, Dennis is owner-operator of the family farm, where he currently milks 37 Holstein cows with as many replacement heifers and tends 124 acres of crops.

Dennis began his practical experience program his freshman year in vo-ag/FFA with 31 hogs and 2½ acres of corn. During the next three years he added hogs, bought Holstein heifers and raised potatoes. Part-time work at a lumber yard helped him build a savings account.

As a senior, Dennis enrolled in the agribusiness work release program at Owatonna High School and was placed at an agricultural supply store. Dennis was able to keep the farm work under control by taking time off during the busy season.

Following the death of his father, Dennis entered into a 50-50 partnership with his mother. He bought his mother's interest in 1978. Dennis has plans for a 40-cow dairy herd and assumption of an additional 100 acres.

"Dennis has been in 100 percent managerial control of the whole operation for the past three years and growth has been steady," say his FFA advisors.

In FFA, Dennis competed in parliamentary procedure, public speaking and contests in agricultural mechanics and dairy judging.

Eastern Region

Kevin S. Holtzinger, 20, of Windsor, Pennsylvania, wants to expand his dairy cattle operation in the near future—from the 225 head he has now. Those 225 ballooned from Kevin's supervised FFA program initiated in 1973 with three dairy cows from his father's herd.

Today, Kevin leases a farm and milks 110 head of dairy cattle on a three-times-a-day schedule, with an average production of over 50 pounds per cow per day.

"In my opinion, Kevin has displayed many qualities synonymous with the FFA creed," says Barry Oswald, Bermudian FFA advisor.

Illustrating Oswald's point, Kevin's FFA honors include the Pennsylvania state Dairy Production proficiency award and chapter president from 1974 to 1976. He participated in many contests including dairy judging, parliamentary procedure and tractor driving. He received the DeKalb Agriculture Award and the Interstate Milk Producers Award on the state level.

Kevin has an option to buy his rented 72-acre farm in five years. Meanwhile, he has leased an additional 303 acres to meet the grain and roughage needs of his herd.

Kevin's management practices include employment of four workers and use of the most modern health and safety practices. He also combines much data and records, including a computer printout to improve his herd's breeding program.

Kevin hopes to expand in both numbers and production in the near future.

Western Region

Jerry C. Wiebe, 21, Hooker, Oklahoma, didn't know what FFA opportunities awaited as he began his Greenhand year of FFA. Now, seven years after an initial FFA program of five steers and three hogs, Jerry has 50 percent interest in Wiebe Farms, Incorporated.

The family corporation includes 1,314 head of stocker cattle which utilize wheat pasture, milo stalks and grass in New Mexico and Colorado. The family farms 3,200 acres of both dryland and irrigated wheat and 1,760 acres of milo. Future plans call for the addition of a private feedlot for hogs and cattle.

Jerry attends Oklahoma State University, majoring in farm and ranch management. He has incorporated computer processes and learned to "analyze the profitability and feasibility of every phase of Wiebe farm operations." A small on-farm computer is in Jerry's plans as he foresees the machine's aid in bookkeeping. While at OSU, he hopes to further explore the benefits of market trend analysis, hedging and forward contracting.

In the Hooker FFA, Jerry served as president, secretary and treasurer. In 1975, he was named Star State Farmer of Oklahoma and in 1977 he received the state Crop Production proficiency award. The rancher is also active in national breed associations.

A good manager, Jerry looks forward to accomplishing his goals of land expansion and the establishment of cattle and swine feedlots.

Star Agribusinessmen

Southern Region

W. Kenley Redditt, 21, of Orlando, Florida, is proof that FFA can be effective in the city. Kenley, a meat packing plant assistant manager, has made good use of the skills and talents he developed through training in vo-ag/FFA.

"It was about the time I enrolled in vo-ag/FFA that I realized the tremendous opportunity I had for establishing and advancing myself in the livestock and meat trade," he says.

Taking advantage of many FFA opportunities, Kenley was a member of a winning livestock judging team and high individual in state livestock judging and live evaluation. He was also a member of a high ranking state meats team. Keeping the administrative end of the business in mind, Kenley has received the state proficiency awards in both Agricultural Sales and/or Service and Agricultural Processing.

Kenley says his training in various phases of the business "placed on me a big responsibility to be more than just an employee, but to become an active and contributing part of the administration of the business."

Kenley proved his involvement with the business when he was a part of the team that designed and built a new packing plant. The new plant has the capacity to handle the slaughter of 75 cattle and 80 to 100 hogs per day.

Kenley often returns home to assist FFA chapter members in meats team judging efforts. The college-bound agribusinessman is very involved in church, serving as an ordained deacon, and FFA Alumni.

Central Region

Robert W. Lovelace, 20, of Elsberry, Missouri, turned a school project of picking up pin oak acorns into a full-time successful business that supplies seeds of woody ornamentals and shrubs to nurseries all over the midwest and three European countries.

Robert had an early interest in the nursery business, so at the suggestion of his father, he began collecting acorns for seed that could be sold to nurseries. His collecting business rapidly expanded and through encouragement from customers he established Rob Lovelace Seeds. After a successful first season, Rob purchased seedlings of his own in an effort to begin a controlled program for the improvement of his product.

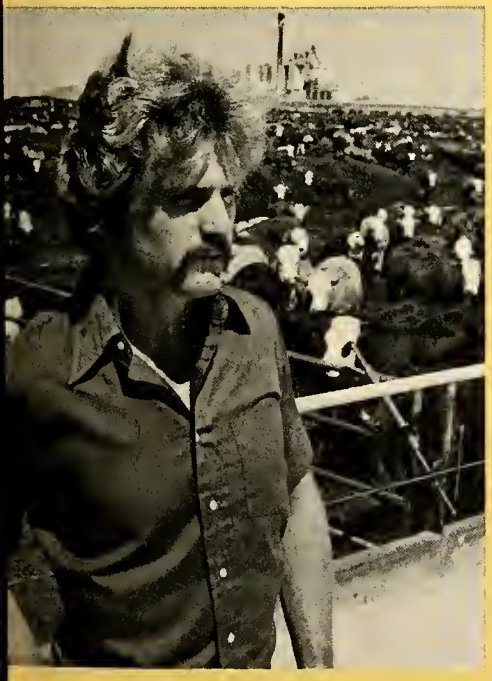
Since 1973, Rob has spent hundreds of hours collecting a total of 32,793 pounds of tree and shrub seeds from nearly 50 different species of ornamental plants.

(Continued on next page)

Kevin Holtzinger, Windsor, Pennsylvania

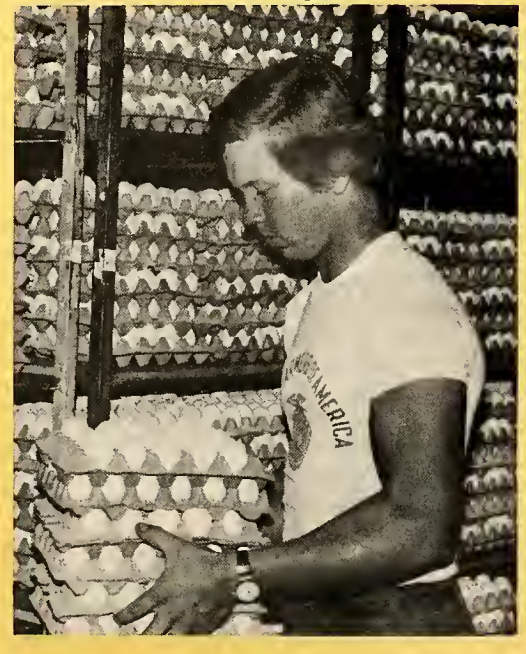
Star Farmers

erry Wiebe, Hooker, Oklahoma



Dennis Ringhofer, Owatonna, Minnesota

Steven Burke, Millen, Georgia



Stanley Palmer, Alliance, Ohio

Robert Lovelace, Elsberry, Missouri

Ron Grabner, Kent, Washington

Star Agribusinessmen

Kenley Redditt, Orlando, Florida

(Continued from Page 27)

Through the gradual increase in his operation's scope, Rob's labor income has increased from several hundred dollars to a yearly sum well into five figures.

Rob is renowned for his achievements in the areas of seed breeding for hybrid vigor and seed preparation for chipping.

In high school, the seed specialist has been involved in sports, photography and drama. Success on livestock judging teams and in FFA chapter office led to his being the first recipient of the state Agribusinessman Award in Missouri as well as the state and national proficiency winner in Horticulture.

Eastern Region

Stanley M. Palmer, 21, of Alliance, Ohio, is now the enterprising owner of a milk hauling corporation. But when Stan entered vo-ag and the Marlington FFA, he wanted to work in the U.S. Forest Service after graduation. During the summer following his freshman year, though, work at an area dairy and grain farm pointed his career goal toward agriculture.

During four years at the dairy, Stan was responsible for animal care, milking, sanitation, formulating rations and feeding. Field work included plowing, planting, harvesting and supervising drying operations.

In October of 1977 Stan bought a local milk hauling operation, the start of Stan Palmer Transport, Inc. "This business suits my needs," he says. "It's agriculture-oriented, I'm self-employed, building capital and I have only one boss—myself."

Stan owns two trucks and bulk tanks and is responsible for all maintenance and sanitation concerns relating to them. Other jobs include taking milk samples for butterfat content and bacteria count and maintaining milk quality standards.

In FFA, Stan served as district president and held two local chapter offices. Active in chairmanships of several major FFA committees, Stan further strengthened his leadership skills by serving as president on the chapter parliamentary procedure team. He's continuing his FFA involvement as an officer in the local Alumni Affiliate.

Western Region

Ron Grabner, 21, of Kent, Washington, is currently involved in productive activities ranging from meat cutting, his primary career interest, to six-pony hitches and profitable land investment.

Throughout high school Ron showed an interest in all areas of agriculture, but his real strength was in the area of meats. "Even before I graduated I felt I knew that I wanted to be a meat cutter," he says.

Upon graduation, Ron began on-the-job training, learning to butcher, break, and pack beef and pork. He later moved to another company as a meat cutter. After moving closer to home to work in butchering, Ron decided to continue his formal education at the advice of a very large packing company he someday hopes to work for. He currently performs meat cutting and retail merchandising part-time.

During his butcher training, Ron purchased 14 acres and turned them into a profitable firewood business. Another investment is three registered Angus cattle kept at a former employer's ranch.

An unusual interest Ron pursues is his six-pony hitch of Shetlands. Beginning with Shetland ponies and a donkey in his senior year he has achieved the distinction of being one of the few permanent exhibitors with the draft horse exhibit at the Western Washington Fair.

In high school, Ron was involved in track, band, drama and student government. His FFA projects ranged from poultry to dairy to livestock to horses.

Money To Make It On Your Own

By James Spychalla

Two farm credit lenders discuss how the agricultural credit industry can serve younger farmers.

EVERY young farmer has to believe he has the capability to run his own successful money-making farming operation. The problem today is the amount of money needed to get started.

The money may be needed to buy into your parents' operation, start a separate business from your parents or there is even the possibility of starting from scratch. Here the world of agricultural financing begins for young farmers.

Thomas Mueller, loan officer for the Production Credit Association (PCA) of Madison, Wisconsin, and James Schmitz, president of the First Wisconsin National Bank of Waunakee, Wisconsin, both emphasize that farm credit is extended on an individual basis. Two loans are never alike.

The size of the loan, interest rate, repayment plan and collateral required are different for every person.

"There are five areas we look at when a young farmer applies for a loan," explains Mueller. "First is the man factor. Is he capable of doing the job and does he have the experience? Second, we look at his current financial situation. What are his assets and liabilities? Third, will his operation generate the funds to repay? The fourth point is an evaluation of the young farmer's past credit history. Finally, we look at our own amount of risk on each loan."

According to both Schmitz and Mueller most of their farm loans in the area are to the dairy, corn and cash crop farmers. The money is used for new silos, barn additions and production costs.

If a young farmer gets a loan his repayment plan is adjusted to fit his type of operation. "A dairy farmer may make monthly repayments, while a grain farmer may repay only once a year when he sells his crop," Mueller pointed out.

Farm credit can involve large amounts of money. According to Schmitz his farm loans range in size from $10 to $85,000. Mueller's average loan size is $85,000. However, loans don't have to be this size to be considered big.

"Depending on his financial situation, for a young farmer with only $1,000 assets, a $1,000 loan may be a big loan for this individual," admits Mueller.

These farm credit organizations look at profitability of the young farmer in future years. There is no minimum size of loan they are willing to work with.

"It varies on the circumstances, but 85 percent of a farmer's assets is an average figure on the limit to the size of a loan we will make," says Mueller. This leaves the customer some reserve borrowing capacity should the unexpected occur. It also provides the lender with security.

Co-signing is a common practice. Of 450 Madison area PCA loans to farmers under 35 years old, 132 were co-signed. "Co-signing gives the connotation that the borrower is substandard. However, we don't like to look at it that way," says Schmitz.

"Co-signing means another person will pay back the loan if the young farmer isn't successful. Co-signing is fairly common for a year or so until the young farmer can show profitability," Mueller cited.

Recalling a loan is an uncommon occurrence. When all the information is gathered and a definite declining trend in the farmer's value is observed, the loan officer visits the farm. The loan is recalled when the lending institution can no longer justify the loan to the individual. "Our PCA loss ratio is below one-half of 1 percent," says Mueller.

"I can't remember having to tell a farmer that maybe he should be doing something else," recalls Schmitz.

Is money available for loans to young farmers? Schmitz and Mueller disagree. "Money is very tight. This is the problem right now with farm credit. Money is not available, there is even rationing of money," Schmitz replied. This may be because rural banks get their money only from local deposits.

"There is no shortage of money at PCA because we sell bonds on the open stock market. So we consider older established farmers as well as younger farmers for our loans," explained Mueller.

What should a young farmer do with the money he's making now? Mueller says you shouldn't put it in a savings account. "You are better off by investing money on a small basis in a farm operation. This investment keeps pace with inflation, while a savings account doesn't."

Both Schmitz and Mueller visit farms they are long-term financing a minimum of once a year.

"On farm visits we sit down and chat about production levels, update financial statements and get income tax and depreciation information," says Mueller.

Farm loans are written with the farmer in control. Both men agreed that the farmer runs the operation as he sees fit. He's the one that makes the decisions how to use the money loaned.

"Farmers are good people to do business with and I don't say that from a propaganda standpoint either," asserted Schmitz.

Schmitz and Mueller also feel farmers are the most honest and sincere group in society without question. They think farmers are a self-policing group because they have their reputation to think of.

"The Federal Land Bank, which handles land financing and the Farmer's Home Administration are other popular sources of farm credit," says Schmitz.

The PCA is organized as a farmer cooperative for the benefit of its members, which are the farmers. Most banks are private corporations. All these credit sources are competing with each other for your business.

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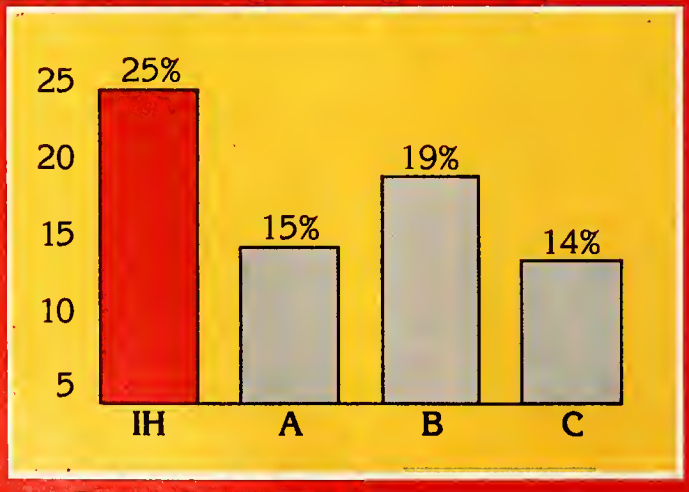

Percent of Torque Rise—IH versus Competition

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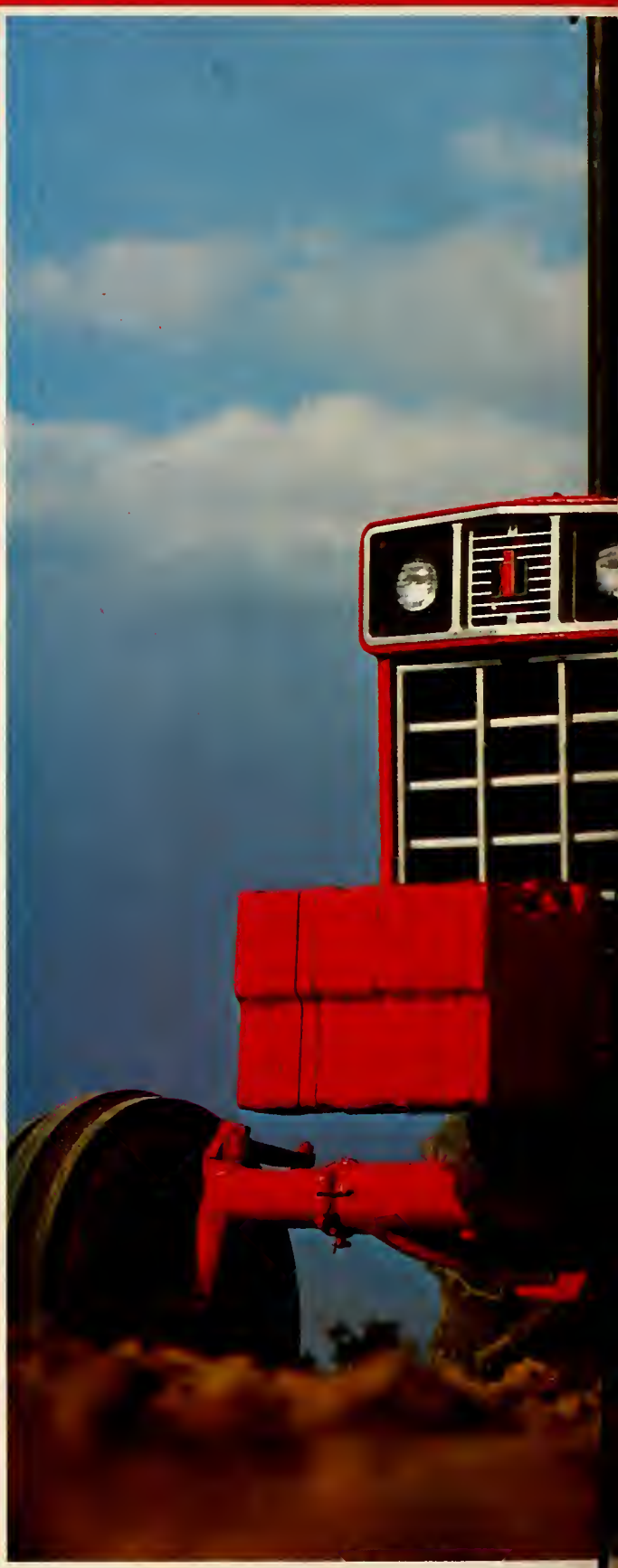

GO

RED POWER

When Nature Needs Help

By Alan Rochussen

CONSERVATION minded FFA members from the Alvirne Chapter in Hudson, New Hampshire, have been raising game pheasants for the past two years to release in local communities for area hunting enthusiasts.

The idea for the program materialized when Advisor Forrest Goodwin read about a similar program in a magazine devoted to the conservation of New Hampshire's resources.

The program was initiated back in May of 1977 when approximately 100 day-old pheasant chicks were donated to the Alvirne agriculture department by the state fish and game department.

The cooperative program with the fish and game department implemented for raising needed pheasants to stock New Hampshire's woodlands and fields stipulated that the chapter would raise and care for chicks until they were of a sufficient size to release.

The state fish and game department used to provide the needed pheasants at their raising facilities at Brentwood Farms. However, in 1974 an epidemic of equine encephalitis broke out on the farm and 25,000 birds had to be destroyed to prevent the spread of the infectious disease. This large loss of birds forced the eventual shutdown of the farm.

Now the pheasants are obtained from sportsmen and clubs around the state, who like the Alvirne FFA, raise the donated pheasant chicks to releasing size for the state.

Upon the receipt of the chicks at Alvirne, the young pheasants were raised for the first nine weeks under a brooder where they were kept warm until they feathered out enough to be transferred to the outside pens. The pens, constructed of scrap lumber and chickenwire, were 2,500 square feet in size and were built by Alvirne members.

By mid-September, 1977, after consuming 1,600 pounds of grain in 18 weeks, the surviving 79 pheasants were picked up by state fish and game officials.

FFA members assisted in capturing and releasing the birds at sites preselected by fish and game officials, according to area needs. Thirty-nine pheasants were released in Hudson and 40 more in neighboring Litchfield, both rural communities which provide an excellent habitat for pheasants.

The reason pheasants must be stocked annually in the New Hampshire woodlands is because of the low survival rate of pheasants that live there during the winter months. Out of every hundred pheasants that survive the hunting season, only three to four on the average will survive the winter months.

Because of the good results of the pheasant-raising program in 1977, it was continued again in spring of 1978 with approximately the same number of birds as the previous year. However, the number was diminished early in the year when a predator got into the brooder pen in the barn and killed many of the young pheasant chicks.

Determined FFA members continued with the program and finished in the fall with about 50 birds of excellent quality.

As a result of the program's success the chapter submitted the pheasant-raising project as their Building Our American Communities project and won the area, state and a bronze national BOAC award during 1978.

Ken Johnson, who was national FFA president then, presented the state BOAC award to the FFA in a school-wide assembly. This was the first agriculturally related assembly in the history of the agriculture department at Alvirne High since its establishment in 1959.

At the National Convention in Kansas City, Pat Hall, chapter president, and Alan Rochussen, BOAC committee chairman and chapter vice president, received the bronze national award.

Future plans for the pheasant raising project are to eventually expand to a maximum of about 200 birds over the next few years which will require an additional 4,000 square feet of pen space.

Through the efforts of FFA members at Alvirne, the pheasant population in this southern region of New Hampshire has been improved.

The two-year pheasant growing project by FFA meant better hunting and a healthier pheasant population in their state.

All the members had a hand in catching and delivering the pheasants to areas designated by state game officials.

Livestock Production

(Continued from Page 20)

because it's very low in cholesterol. Our special-fed fancy veal is mainly a 'carriage' trade, or for people who can afford $19 a plate for it."

Three main qualities of veal are prevalent. Bob veal, generally the least palatable, is produced from calves less than one week old, the meat distinguished by a very pale color. Grain-fed veal, or baby beef, shows texture because of age but does not have the creamy pink color desired by many consumers and chefs. Special-fed, or fancy, veal calves are raised scientifically on a formulated milk diet under a quality control system. The Willette's fancy veal bears still another distinction—much of it becomes "kosher."

"Kosher veal is the best market and brings a higher price," says Jeff, referring to the type of veal ritually fit to Jewish law. "In order to be kosher, a Jewish rabbi must kill the calf. The rabbis and USDA meat inspectors are both involved in examining and approving the carcass for distribution. Calves are sold dressed and average 224 pounds of carcass weight."

Veal calves may be raised in two ways, on contract or independent basis. In contract growing, the contractor provides feed and a ready market for the finished product. The Willettes work on a contract basis with the Provimi Company of New Jersey.

"To start a fresh barn," says Jeff, "our buyers bring calves in at 70 to 100 pounds each. It takes a few days to get the barn full again so we vaccinate the calves as they come in. Before any come, though, the barn is completely disinfected from the last crop."

A high pressure cleaning system is used to wash the barn and pens. The two-week cleaning period, plus 15 weeks for growth, allows three groups of calves per year, a total of over 300.

"Every calf must adjust to its pen," says Hunter, "even to the point of learning how to drink the milk formula. Since they come right off their mother, they're used to her teat. To teach them to drink, we stick our hand in the buckets and put it to their mouths. They then follow the hand to the bucket and start drinking."

In pen confinement, the calves get very little exercise and put on more weight. The meat, as a result of little physical activity, is very tender. The all liquid milk feed formula diet, fed twice a day at 12-hour intervals, contributes to the meat's quality.

"The feeding process starts with mixing the powder into liquid," shares Jeff, referring to the three automatic mixers in the shed. "The formula contains animal fats, proteins and carbohydrates.

"When a calf first comes in, he's not fed immediately so he'll develop a good appetite. We begin with Provimelk prestarter, which is highly enriched with nutrients. After five weeks, the calves are fed Provikalf starter then moved to the grower mix."

Of the 108 total calves housed, the mortality rate rarely exceeds four or five. Careful observation and a regimented health maintenance program keep the rate at low levels.

"Both Jeff and Hunter, along with our helper, Doug Jones, can identify a problem calf," says dad Al Willette. "Calves are culled periodically so we don't wind up growing out a bad animal. If a calf is too small, develops scours, or is not drinking, it will probably be culled. The barn is disease free and we've got to keep it that way."

The first three weeks of a calf's confinement are crucial in regard to health. During this time, the animal is medicated with antibiotics and injected with vitamins A, D, and B-12. A swine medicine is also administered to prevent scours. Problems arising during the second three-week period often relate only to the respiratory tract.

"After six weeks," says Jeff, "the problems are few if good management and sanitation methods are followed."

At 15 weeks, if all has gone well, the calves are trucked "up North." Even the transportation is unique as the trucker must stop every two to three hours on the road to make sure calves are in a standing position. Bruising can bring down the quality of the meat, decreasing the grower's monetary return.

Jeff and Hunter hope to join in with their father and expand the business. They've also got their eye on developing a Simmental herd. Whatever direction the operation heads, the Willettes will continue with their mark of good management and careful application of innovations in agriculture.

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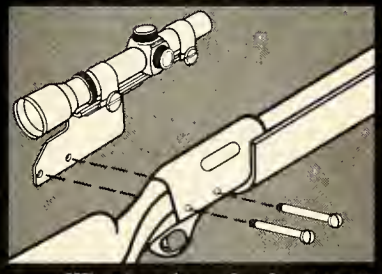

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Michigan Technological Univ., Houghton
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Univ. of Michigan, Ann Arbor
Western Michigan Univ., Kalamazoo

MINNESOTA
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Univ. of Minnesota, Minneapolis

MISSISSIPPI
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Jackson State Univ., Jackson
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Univ. of Mississippi, University
Univ. of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg

MISSOURI
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Kemper Military School and College, Boonville
Lincoln Univ., Jefferson City
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Northeast Missouri State Univ., Kirksville
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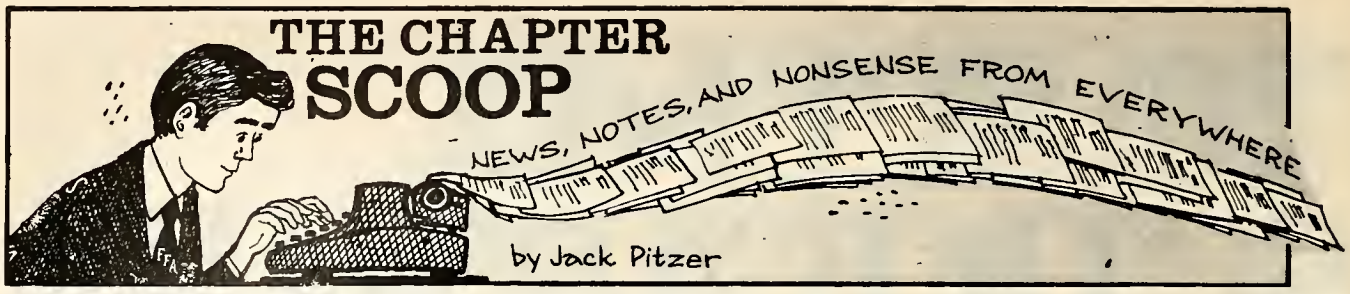


They voted against a car wash in order to get out of the hole financially in *Apple Valley,* CA, Chapter. Instead, they washed airplanes for $10 each.

N-N-N

Denise Akers caught the largest fish, a 6-pound trout, on *Sultan,* WA, annual trip. Mr. Downs was a guest for his 18th year in a row.

N-N-N

The item received from *Fort Defiance,* VA, Chapter, was big news. The typewriter was stuck on all caps!

N-N-N

The school district gave the *Mauston,* WI, FFA a Distinguished Service Award for sustaining interest in and contribution to public education.

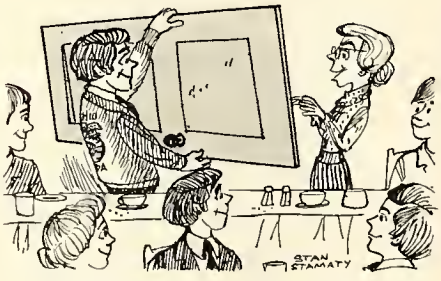
N-N-N

Activity ideas for an alumni affiliate from *Wamego,* KS: furnished trucks to take shop projects to fairs; loaned equipment for BOAC work; donated a hog for the family barbeque; organized a workshop to help other affiliates to form; and found placements for 17 members.

N-N-N

Safety committee of *Bluffs,* IL, filmed, edited and produced a soundtrack for a 20-minute movie on home safety. Gave it to elementary school.

N-N-N



During the *Ada,* OH, banquet many door prizes were given, including a door.

N-N-N

Other chapters like *Sweeny,* TX, sent their executive committee to an officer leadership camp run by the association.

N-N-N

A team of **Jeff Ward, Lonnie Gilley, Scott White** and **Jim Orman** from *Muskogee,* OK, won the commercial cattle grading contest at the Tulsa stockyards.

N-N-N

A horseshoe contest was a fund-raising idea of *Sheldon,* TX, FFA, Houston.

N-N-N

First they volunteer to clean out old dead and dying trees for area farmers during the summer. Then in the fall, they use the hydraulic log splitter they built to split the wood before selling it at $45 a pickup load. The work earns cash for *Blooming Prairie,* MN, FFA.

One guest at *Gaithersburg,* MD, 51st annual banquet was **Harrison King,** first chapter president. He told about the first ever banquet and the tours to inspect each other's projects.

N-N-N

Slides of past chapter presidents with families and jobs were shown at *Mosinee,* WI, banquet.

N-N-N

FFA and Key Club had a contest in *Mexico,* MO, to see which chapter could get the most blood donors. FFA won.

N-N-N

Games at a fun day hosted by *Savannah,* MO, for *North Andrew* and *Maysville* included bale stacking, watermelon seed spitting, nail driving, sawing, tug-o-war, bait casting, bucket tossing and sack race.

N-N-N

A real testimonial for the North Carolina FFA Camp was sent in by **Cathy Richard** for *East Rowan* members. They even like the food.

N-N-N

Reporter **Dianne Colwell** of *Cleburne,* TX, FFA, published a monthly newsletter during the summer and mailed it to all the members!

N-N-N

Coe-Brown Academy FFA in Northwood, NH, held its annual officer training workshop in July for opening ceremony, officer responsibilities, banquet presentations and program of work.

N-N-N

FFA'ers challenged *Sheffield,* IA, business men to a farm olympics of egg toss, post driving and hay stacking.

N-N-N

All 51 members of *Margaretta* Chapter in Castalia, OH, sent in $1 each for the National FFA Hall of Achievement development fund.

N-N-N

Leaders of this fund raising drive hope every chapter will contribute $1 per member. Then when FFA members have done their part—shown their desire for a National FFA Archives and exhibit—business and industry will add their support to make it really big and endowed to last forever.

Must have taken lots of "pizza and pop" to feed FFA and FHA after evening fun fest of volleyball and ping pong at *West Union,* IA.

N-N-N

Did you see the new FFA Supply Service catalog? It was mailed August 1.

N-N-N

About 100 members from five chapters got to the Alaska Association convention in April. Delegates came from *Delta Junction, Togiak, Nome, Kivalina* and *Palmer.* State President **Frank Keaster** and Vice President **Don Berberich** came to the State Presidents' Leadership Conference in July.

N-N-N

When *Ferndale,* WY, members **Tami** and **Doug Stuit** lost over $8,000 worth of animals in a barn fire, the chapter put on a benefit dinner and raised $2,000 to help.

N-N-N

FFA sponsored an A.I. workshop in *Mountain View,* WY.

N-N-N

Help for beginning showmen in *Sandy,* OR, Chapter is given in beef, sheep and swine field days prior to the show season.

N-N-N

Also received a news item from the big island of Hawaii with a report of their officer election in *Kohala* Chapter.

N-N-N

A trip to a large amusement park in their state is a summer activity of *Oshkosh North* in WI. Trip is for members and their families.

N-N-N

Three of the new officers for *Prague,* OK, are carpenters. **Clint Carpenter** is reporter, **Connie** is chaplain and **Jimmy** is delegate-at-large.

N-N-N

Utica, OH, FFA bought a copy of *FFA at 50, The Ohio Story* for their school library. The national FFA history would be a good addition to a school library, too. And especially a copy in the vo-ag classroom.

N-N-N

Just about anybody is eligible to send newsy items for this column: Greenhands, Chapter Farmers, advisors, presidents, reporters, sentinels, alumni chairmen, parents, judging teams. You.

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Best in West

(Continued from Page 22)

crate is completely disinfected and flamed out with a torch if exposed to scours.

"Our sows' littering is purposely cycled out. Since we breed every three to four weeks, there's usually that same amount of time between one barnful and another. The unused portion of the house is cleaned and prepared for the next 14 sows."

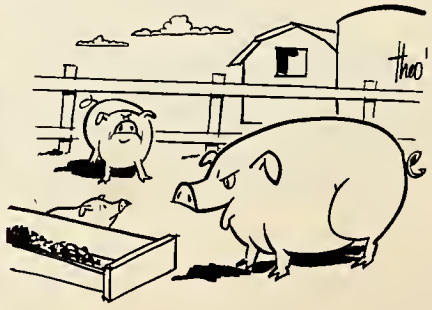
Records are of great importance to Alan's management program. In front of each farrowing crate, a chart shows the sow's eartag I.D. number, the date farrowed, birthweights and number weaned. These records help Alan evaluate the quality of the charted animals.

"We hope for a weaned litter of eight pigs," Alan shares, adding, "The pigs are weaned after four weeks. A drop below seven weaned usually means the sow must be sold."

So far, Alan hasn't been faced with ridding himself of many sows due to unsatisfactory farrowing. But even with litters such as a Samber sow's farm record of 22, the number weaned usually drops to between eight and ten. Newborn pigs are not particularly hardy. Partly because of their vulnerability, pigs at seven weeks old are moved to special confinement.

"We call it the nursery," Alan says, moving through the dimly lit barn. Spry young pigs, in pens of about 20 each, rush to the pens' closest points to the aisle at the sound of their owner's footsteps.

"The pigs grow out here to around 60 pounds before they leave for the finishing barn," Alan remarks over a barrage of loud oinks. "The nursery is basically designed to reduce stress, prompting better growth. To promote healthy development, heat lamps are incorporated into the building for cold weather. Year round, the water system provides antibiotics and a special growth supplement."



"How do you expect to be a big fat slob like your mother if you don't eat."

Alan takes pride in his sheep flock, showing his animals whenever possible.

During the time animals move from the farrow to finish barns, the hogs are subject to an intensive disease control plan. Special boots and overalls are worn inside buildings, with the boots disinfected upon each entry. This kind of precaution prevents a breakout of disease through human transmittal. A schedule of vaccinations is strictly adhered to against scours, atrophic rhinitis, leptospirosis and erysipelas.

Alan says knowing what to look for in an animal is an invaluable skill for the swine producer. "Desirable characteristics change frequently, but the trend now is toward a long, tall animal as trim as possible. For breeding stock, you want gilts with six teats on both sides at a minimum.

"If you hope to farrow pigs, the sow has got to have enough dinner plates," he quips.

Alan avows that friendly association with other hog breeders also helps the enterprising swine farmer. Alan asserts that today's farmer must keep up with the ever-changing production methods employed by peers and competitors.

"Our goal here is continuing production at a constant rate, not allowing efficiency factors to fluctuate up and down," shares Alan. "Steady growth simply takes study and learning from your mistakes."

Next time you find some old agriculture books in the attic or garage, don't pitch them. They may lead you to a successful farming venture—much like Alan Samber's.

Hiker. The shoe designed for Nature and Randy White.

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CEDAR CREST

Greg and his dad Richard, along with Advisor Mike Tyrrel, survey the growing herd.

Photos by Author

Choquette Herefords: Headed For the Top

On the road of expansion, Greg Choquette faced a few obstacles. But now he's on course.

Greg's preventive medicine practices include feeding drug boluses. Greg's father, Richard, tends the chute.

By Jeffrey Tennant

GREGORY Choquette says he'll never reach his goals in his life as a cattle rancher. Not that he doesn't set any. It's just that once he reaches a goal, he's not satisfied until he progresses even further.

"Oh, I do have a goal," says Greg, an 18-year-old FFA member from Franklin, Nebraska. Setting his ambitions none too low, Greg reveals his goal "is to build one of the top Hereford herds in Nebraska."

Greg confesses that saying it is one thing, doing it another. But from the beginning, the herd has been treated as if it were already the best. Even back when Choquette Herefords consisted of ten registered cows.

"Dad once ran nothing but commercial feedyard cattle," remembers Greg, now a partner with his father, Richard, in a 285-head breeding beef farm. "He was sending a double-decker semi-truck load out of here every week full of cattle for slaughter. But since I bought the ten Herefords we've been phasing out of market cattle and into the breeding business. It offers good economic stability."

Soon after Greg's purchase of the Hereford cows, he and his father entered into partnership that would enable herd expansion. With an initial 1,800 acres of good pasture, the Choquettes set a goal of 150 registered purebred females. They're at 125 head and still expanding. Additional acreage, bringing the total to 2,293, now harbors the growing stronghold of Choquette bulls.

"Together we decided on a 50-50 partnership," shares

Greg, recalling the arrangement with his dad, an FFA alumnus. "We borrowed money from the bank and bought 120 cows. That's when Choquette Herefords began."

As in many newly established farms, Choquette Herefords lost money in it's first year. Forced to keep and breed the newly purchased cows, simply no stock existed to sell. But Greg and Richard, with help from mom Donna and sister Gwen, stuck it out and are now reaping profits every year.

"We've paid back practically all the loan," says Greg, computing some quick figures out of his FFA record book. "Our income is produced in several ways. Much of the debt has been repaid by marketing yearling bull calves and coming-two heifers (animals approaching two years old). We recently sold a three-quarter interest in a bull for $5,000 and still retained semen rights."

It's that kind of deal that pays off debts. But the acquisition of fine, breeder demanded animals starts from the first visual appraisal—and often ends in the showring.

"Our goal is to show prospective buyers fine breeding stock." continues Greg. "These animals are not for market. We're building certified seed stock.

"Our best heifers are kept as replacements as we sell older cows. We figure even an exceptional cow is good for not over ten years. In selecting heifers to keep, we look for a long, tall-type animal. Now we're artificially inseminating our cows to the nation's top herd bulls."

Semen ampules used by the Choquettes cost from $100 to $300 per certificate, higher than the usual provision but carrying a "guarantee" of a live calf. Presently a local veterinarian handles the inseminating but Greg is headed for AI training in college. Choquette cows are bred to calve in spring and fall.

"We have a limited expansion planned," says Greg of his calving goals. "We're already engaged in constant herd improvement. Total performance records (TPR) provided through the American Hereford Association show the true quality of our cattle.

"These kinds of records are very useful. Each printout sheet gives a cow's production record, her calf's weight and weaning age. Efficiency factors such as TPR ratios, a cow's comparison with other stock, indicate how good an animal is."

Producing and maintaining high quality Hereford stock is only half the battle in the breeder business. The other major facet is won or lost in tough competition with a showring as an arena.

"Participation in shows has increased Greg's proficiency as a cattleman," says Mike Tyrrel, FFA advisor at Franklin. Writing in Greg's state-winning Beef Production proficiency award, Mike asserts, "Through the ring and other learning, Greg has built a sound managerial program that will continue to upgrade his entire operation."

"I've always wanted him to be a showman," adds Richard, looking squarely at his son, "and he's proven himself. He hits around 20 shows a year. He doesn't win all the time but he gets his share."

Sitting in a room with walls plastered by blue ribbons, Greg adds, "You win every time you show, especially in the registered breeding business. If we win a trophy, people remember the name. But even if we don't win a big prize, we've still gotten exposure. We want our stock known statewide."

Coming-two bulls are the Choquettes' best sellers. The reason? Exposure from shows, say Greg and Richard. And if Choquette bulls keep going to prestigious regional consignment sales, where the animal is shown and sold, the herd's good reputation will continue to grow. Building a name for your cattle takes elements besides quality stock.

"Grooming is most important for successful showing," advises Greg. "Properly done, grooming adds conformation and class to an animal. Many times it makes the decision in close placings.

"But grooming isn't the whole story. Properly prepare the animal long before grooming. Since we keep our show cattle in a barn, they're jogged about a mile every day for exercise. Then their hair is blown out and wetted for coolness and faster hair growth."

Two unusual methods become obvious as Greg works out his show cattle. Most noticeably, an AM radio blares in the barn, a trick that Greg says "keeps the stock calm even when strangers walk in." Secondly, the cattle are jogged behind Greg's moving pickup, harnessed to a two-wheeled gizmo that attaches to the truck bumper.

Besides showing, Greg busies himself with the not-so-glamorous side of cattle ranching. Herd tagging and tattooing, vaccinating, dipping, hoof trimming—all necessary duties in Greg's line of work. College-bound with a desire to become a certified public accountant, Greg hopes to return to the ranch with not only cowboy skills, but business smarts, too.

Having attained numerous showmanship awards, champion cattle and a Nebraska state FFA office, you'd think Greg would have reached at least one goal. Well, maybe he has. But have you ever sped by something so fast you missed it?

This homemade contraption, designed with a ball and hitch, can be pulled by a pickup for easy jogging of show animals.

The showring is valuable "advertising" for Greg's calves, so careful attention is given to an animal's preparation.

Girls Become Members of FFA

By Wilson Carnes, Editor

ONE of the most controversial questions to ever come before the FFA was that of admitting girls into the national organization as members. Feelings were strong on both sides of the issue. Emotions ran high. And the question was at times hotly debated on the floor of the National FFA Conventions.

Finally the delegates to the 1969 National FFA Convention solved the issue by voting to amend the FFA constitution and make girls eligible for membership. But girls in the FFA was not a question confined to the sixties. It had been with the organization almost from the beginning and became a hot issue in 1933. Here is how the history *FFA at 25* records the developments at that time.

"The 1933 convention is perhaps best remembered because it brought to a head one of the hottest organizational questions of the day. The Massachusetts Association had permitted girls to become members of the FFA. They had good arguments. After all, girls could become students of vocational agriculture and was not FFA the organization of such students?

"A majority of the delegates disagreed. They adopted a strongly worded motion made by delegate Robert Stewart of Montana that: 'The Massachusetts Association be given three months to conform to the national constitution or the Board of Trustees be instructed to suspend Massachusetts.'

"Because of a peculiarity in the interpretation of a state law governing student organizations, the Massachusetts Association was unable to comply with the rule for about three years. At the 1934 national convention the delegates relented somewhat and specified that girl membership should be limited to a local and state basis. They did, however, make it clear that it was only a temporary concession to permit Massachusetts to retain its charter until the situation could be cleared."

In practice, girls did continue to participate in FFA activities in some states at the state and local level until 1969 when they became eligible for membership in the national organization. Even then, some states and local chapters were slow to admit girls to membership. A few law suits were threatened, but no serious legal problem developed.

The change seemed to be a logical one at the time but it did not come easy. As the instructional program in vocational agriculture was expanded to include subjects such as horticulture and agribusiness, more girls were being enrolled.

Many letters came to *The National FUTURE FARMER* magazine both pro and con. But it was not easy to change tradition. The FFA was launched and conducted for several years as an organization for farm boys who were studying vocational agriculture. "The largest farm boy organization in the world," was a description frequently used. Many chapter banquets were billed as "father-son" events. The FFA magazine said it was published for "the young man on the farm."

The first all-girl judging team to win a national contest was from Santa Maria, California. From left, Delvert Clement, coach, Joan Lewotski, Judy Hickerson, Sue Urias.

Whenever chapters took the issue to their state Attorney General for a ruling, in each case a decision was made that girls had as much right as boys to belong to the FFA. Within the FFA, some argued that the Board of Directors should make the decision and order all chapters and state associations to comply since delegates to the National Convention were reluctant to vote for the change to girl membership. Others said it should be done democratically—by a vote of the delegates to the National FFA Convention. Finally in 1969, the delegates took the necessary action.

A review of FFA activities and programs in recent years indicates that girls have been accepted into the FFA without reservations. They have been chapter and state presidents, received the state and American Farmer degrees, served on winning judging teams, competed in the national public speaking contest, served as national officers and participated in the FFA in many other ways. Though the exact number of girl members is not known, one estimate put the girl membership at 70,000 in 1979.

The first girl to serve as a national officer was elected in 1976. Julie Smiley, at far left, from Mount Vernon, Washington, served FFA as western region vice president.

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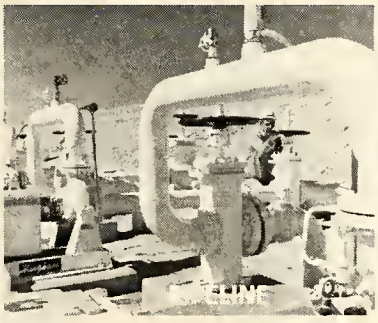

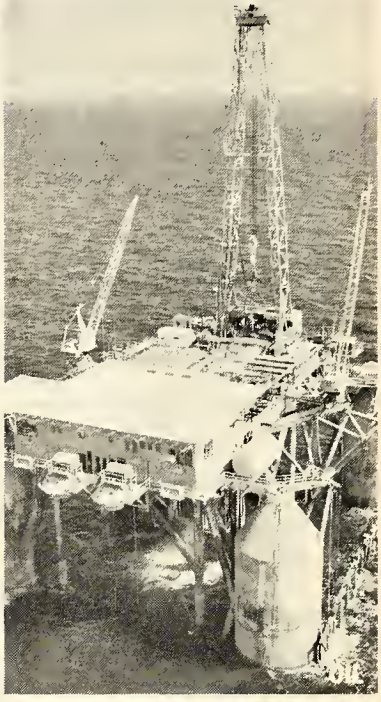

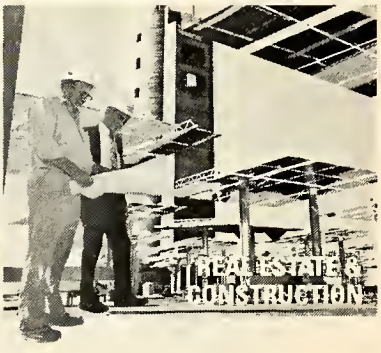

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From Trash to Treasure

FUTURE Farmers at Maui High School in Hawaii have developed a secret formula for converting their cafeteria leftovers into a profitable product.

Stanley Yoshimoto, teacher and advisor of the school's Silversword FFA Chapter describes the recycling project.

"Our school cafeteria is fortunate to be equipped with a shredder," he begins. Disposable lunch trays, milk cartons and food scraps all go into this machine. Our members place the shredded and bagged pulp into wheelbarrows, take it back to the ag area and dump it into a compost heap."

Maui students emptying fresh pulp from the cafeteria onto the compost heap.

Once piled, certain chemicals are applied to control flies and odor. Selected fertilizers are added to enhance microbial action, thus speeding the decomposing process. Instead of the usual three to six months, the compost is ready for use in six weeks. The process is fast, but does require special attention.

"During the decomposition period," explains Stanley, "students turn the compost over with shovels and hoes twice a week. In dry weather, the heap is irrigated to keep the microbes alive and active."

Biologically, composting requires the presence of bacteria. The organisms eventually die after breaking down the molecular structure of the waste. When bacteria terminates, a rich supply of nitrogen and phosphorus compounds is released. Plants can utilize the resulting nutrients when compost is added to the soil.

At the end of the composting period, the original pile will have decreased in size about 50 percent due to a natural breakdown. It is then fumigated to kill any harmful organisms and weed seed that might have blown in.

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Workers sealing the edge of the plastic cover before they release the fumigant.

Direct costs of the project are minimal since cafeteria manager Mildred Okuda gives the chapter the basic ingredients. The profit margin is excellent even though the FFA's selling price is limited by the prices of competitive products such as chicken manure. Nevertheless, Advisor Yoshimoto says sales are doing quite well.

"We've been wholesaling the finished and bagged product to a local garden shop that has a standing order for all we can produce. We only wish we had a larger supply, then we would have a broader market."

Chapter members have experimented with the fertilizer on various garden crops. Each crop has grown "beautifully . . . much better than control groups." By accident, the students found the product to be an excellent medium for culturing mushrooms.

The compost is sold under the trade name "Terra-Nutri Con." "Terra" comes from the word "terrestrial," meaning earth or land. "Nutri" is a derivative of "nutrient," and "Con" is short for "conditioner." As the name implies, the chapter advertises their product as "a soil conditioner with nutrients."

The chapter is registering the trade name and formula to protect FFA's interest from outside competition.

"Come on, Elsie! We've got to cull out the hands that aren't producing!"

Have a blast.

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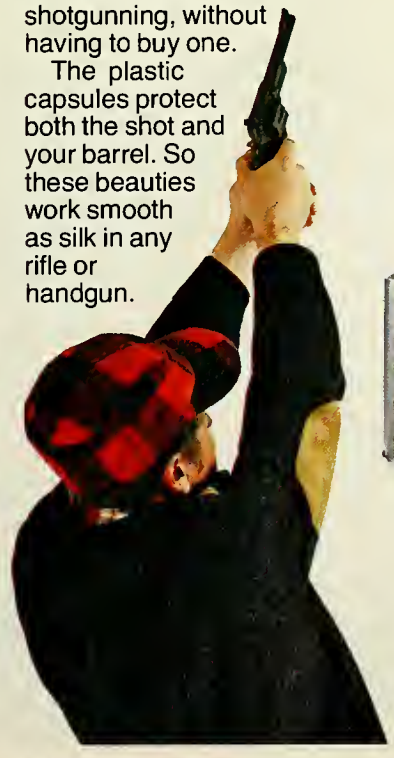

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16 Steps to Successful Learning And Better Grades

These suggestions can help you make better grades and learn more while setting your own guidelines for learning.

By Dan Gleason

DO you sit through some classes totally unprepared because you have stopped trying to understand what is going on? Do you daydream through classes and study halls? Do you feel you are drifting along, passing courses without learning anything? Do you feel you are being put at less than your true value in your grades?

Here are 16 steps that can help if you honestly want to learn.

The first four steps put you on the job ready to learn.

1. *Be physically ready to do your best.* Remember that growing up means taking responsibility for your own health.

2. *Have definite times and places to study and keep the tools you will need at hand.*

3. *Get started on assignments without wasting time.* Remember how good you felt about yourself the last time you used a last period Friday study hall to get started on Monday's homework?

4. *Reduce the clutter in which you generally operate.* Most of us work in a confusion of our own making and a periodic cleaning out of books, locker and desk is important. It also generates the feeling of a fresh start.

The next five steps will help you get what you are trying to learn into your mind and muscles.

5. *Pay attention in class.* Trying to get a start on tomorrow's homework, or even next period's, while following the class with one ear is something almost everybody does once in a while; but it is a mistake. By doing this we build the habit of "getting by" rather than the habit of giving all our attention to the work at hand.

6. *Make use of available help.* When we have trouble we often clam-up and try to work out of it alone or go to the other extreme of talking to everybody and listening to nobody. Ask for help from someone who can analyze the problem and help reveal your mistakes.

7. *Make outlining a learning tool.* Outlining organizes a subject and makes it our own. A rough outline you work out for yourself on the back of an old test is better than a beautiful outline copied unthinkingly from the textbook.

8. *Review early and often.* Psychologists have discovered that reviewing within a few hours—or even minutes in the case of short items like spelling words—helps fix what we have learned so it's remembered much longer. The trick seems to be to catch what was learned as it is about to slip away.

9. *Be an active learner.* Learning may not occur unless there is some activity. Some subjects, typing for example, force us to be active. In others we have to make the activity ourselves. Have you ever resented a teacher asking you to question the ideas in a book you reported on? The teacher wasn't trying to make life harder for you but encouraging you to actively examine what you had read.

The last seven steps will help overcome handicaps in learning which come from our feelings.

10. *Give yourself little rewards.* A grade at the end of the grading period is a distant objective and leaves room for "really getting down to work next week." Promise yourself a little reward for finishing homework and another for getting a better grade on the next quiz.

11. *Face up to the problems that are distracting you.* All kinds of problems—in school, social life, or family—may worry you. Some you can do nothing about. But at least inventory your problems and find those you can do something about. Then *do* it. Unresolved problems create a feeling of powerlessness which is apt to spread into all parts of our lives. On the other hand, energy and confidence follow progress in solving them.

12. *Don't be your own booing section.* We talk glibly about inferiority complexes but most of us carry around false limits on what we can do. Freeing ourselves of these limits is a long and hard job. Don't always assume your family, teachers, and friends are only trying to cheer you up when they declare you are doing better than you give yourself credit for.

13. *Focus on what you are trying to learn.* If you don't, you will focus on yourself. We often focus on ourselves when we work on difficult things and end up with a series of "I" sentences—I must . . ., I can't . . ., I will. . . . When this happens, our efforts to learn are surrounded by such a mixture of hope and fear that it is hard to see exactly what we are doing.

If a first effort fails we try again with less hope and more fear, and repeat

(Continued on Page 52)

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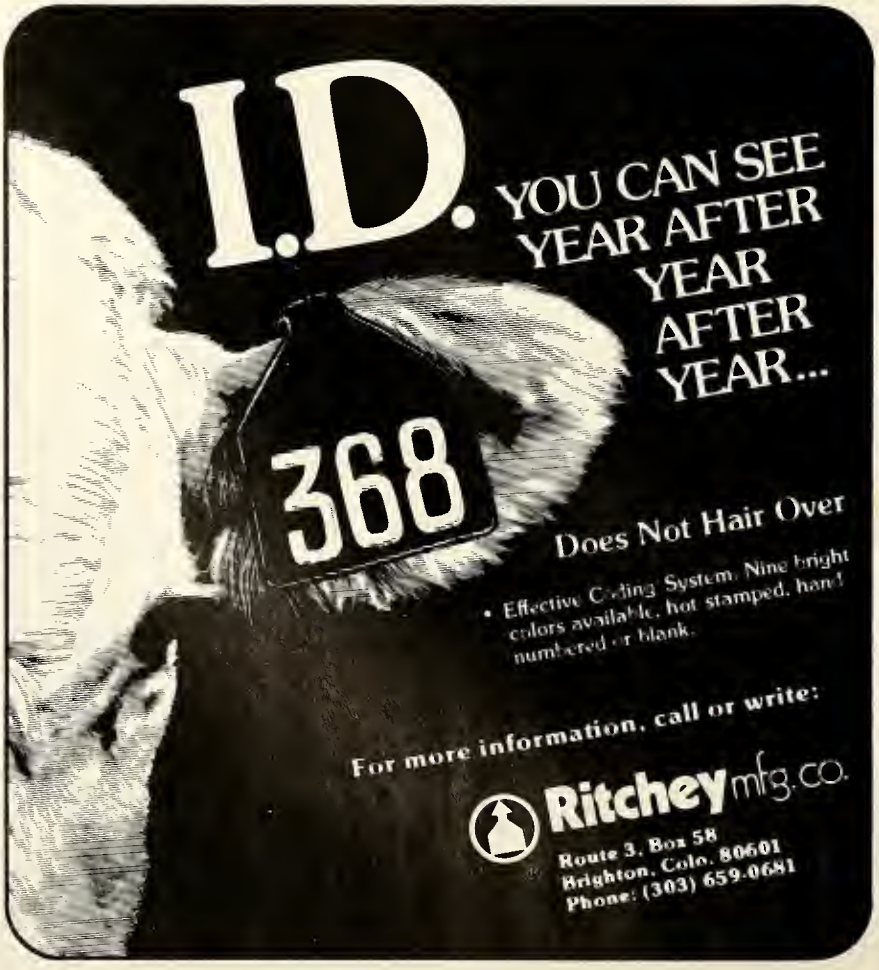
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16 Steps

(Continued from Page 48)

exactly what was done first time including whatever kept us from succeeding. An everyday example is checking a column of figures over and over and getting the same answer each time which we know is wrong.

14. *Watch out for more "I" sentences*. They are great enemies of learning, tricky and persistent. First they will tell us if we grit our teeth and try we can hurdle all the troublesome details of learning. Then they whisper, since the main thing is how hard one tries, why not wait for the right mood? Or they change their tactics and tell us since we can never spell, understand grammar, swim, or you name it, we should give up.

15. *Work to master what you are studying*. When something is mastered it becomes a part of us, gives additional strength and new opportunities.

Mastering a subject sounds massive and forbidding but it is the most natural thing in the world. You are working to master a subject when you become totally involved in the subject itself.

16. *Don't push yourself too hard.* Steady work, day in, day out, will pay off. If you throw yourself into school work determined to produce instant results, you will be like the people who go on reducing diets with a great flourish and drop them within a week. All you will have for your trouble is another "I" sentence. "I really tried hard but it didn't work."

With these steps in mind, you can use common sense and can set your own guidelines for learning. Have confidence in yourself, be honest with yourself, do a reasonable amount of work and your learning will be successful.

The grades?

They will take care of themselves.

"Oh boy, now we can build that new wing."

FFA IN ACTION

A BIG FISH STORY

The catch was a good one this year for the Douglas, Wyoming, FFA Chapter on their big fishing expedition to Canada. Members pay their own way for the seven days.

The Douglas, Wyoming, FFA Chapter has returned from a 2,500-mile round trip to Wolloston Lake, Saskatchewan, where they caught many fish, the largest of which was a 20-pound Northern Pike caught by Kevin Knighten.

Several other fish that weighed 19, 18, 17 and 12 pounds were also landed and everyone caught at least a 6-pounder.

Seventeen members and guests made the trip to Canada in a school bus.

Boats and guides were used because of the size of the lake—it is the largest lake completely in Saskatchewan. It is larger than Lac LaRouge. Cabins were used to house the chapter which was divided into four different groups with four or five per cabin. Each group did their own cooking.

Each day started by loading the boats with fishing gear, raincoats and lunches. At noon all boats would meet on an island to eat lunch. The second day for lunch the group cooked 13 fresh lake trout.

The weather was clear to overcast each day, which was a contrast to last year, when it rained every day.

After fishing until 4 o'clock, the boats returned to camp (sometimes as far as 35 miles by water). Fish were filleted and taken to be frozen until the trip home. Supper was prepared and then many members went fishing again from the shore or a short distance with the boats. Bedtime was usually around 11 or 12 o'clock. (It gets dark about 11:30 and is light again around 2 or 3).

Wolloston Lake is located about 150 miles south of the Northwest Territories or 220 miles north of Lac LaRouge. From Lac LaRouge, there are 220 miles of dirt road which takes about six to seven hours to travel.

Each member pays $130 for the seven-day trip. This includes the cabins, boats, guides, fish freezing, gasoline and food while at the lake.

Fishing licenses cost $10 if 16 years or over. This is the seventh year the FFA chapter has fished in Canada since 1970 and the third at Wolloston Lake. The first year the trip cost each member $45.

Members and guests participating were Bill Stewart, Cody Stewart, Merlin Frye, Bret Frye, Terry Nachtman, Harold Hardesty, Steve Bennett, Jr., Steve Bennett, Sr., Gene Dziardziel, Eric Dziardziel, Phillip Dziardziel, Dean Horr, Jim Horn, Colt Rodeman, Kevin Knighten, Wes Reed and Craig Jepson.

A highlight of the trip was a trip in a float plane around the area that was fished. Seeing the country from the air, you realize just how large and wild this area really is. It is all water and timber. Wolves were heard every day, as they are very numerous there.

The trip took 30 hours of driving each way but all agreed that it was well worth it.

UP IN THE TREETOPS

Buckeye Hills Career Center, located in Rio Grande, Ohio, was chosen as Ohio's pilot sawmill and logging high school program due to the vast timber resources and numerous timber industries in southeastern Ohio. This joint vocational school serves the juniors and seniors from nine high schools throughout Gallia, Jackson and Vinton Counties.

Buckeye Hills is the only high school in Ohio with an operational sawmill in the curriculum. Each day, juniors and seniors receive 1 hour of academic class, 1½ hours of forestry-related classroom lecture and discussion and 3½ hours of actual labor experience. The junior class curriculum is primarily logging and the senior class studies mainly sawmill operation and lumber grading.

Students in the forestry program are active in local, district, and state FFA activities and community service projects involving forestry skills. In addition to the FFA involvement, all forestry students are members of the Ohio Forestry Association. This organization gives valuable assistance to the students following graduation in areas of employment, equipment purchasing and many other areas.

The juniors are presently logging a nearby tract of timber, which is owned by Mr. Bob Evans, Rio Grande, Ohio. The timber is harvested as they use the school's chainsaws, bulldozer, log truck and hydraulic knuckleboom log loader. Other subjects which the junior class covers would include timber cruising, equipment safety and maintenance, first-aid, log scaling and grading, reforestation, soil and water conservation, wildlife management and wood utilization.

The seniors are trained in the setup,

(Continued on Page 55)

Check These BUMPER SNICKERS!

WANT to have some fun? Read the farm-oriented bumper stickers below.

Want to have *more* fun? Stick one or more of these on your car, pickup, tractor, or even your combine! They're just 50¢ each—three for $1.00.

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0325	I'm Rooting for Hogs
0470	Hog Raising Is a Swill Business
0513	Pork Producers Are Hog Wild
0455	Dairymen Do It Butter
0456	Milk Puts You in a Good Moo-d
0457	Dairymen Have Great Hands
0484	Get High on Milk, Our Cows Are on Grass
0454	For Dairymen, It's in the Bag
0483	Swish to Milk
0458	Dairymen Have Lots of Pull
0459	For Dairymen, No Moos Is Bad News
0461	Dairy Wives Have Nice Calves
0498	Put the Squeeze on a Cow.. Drink Milk
0284	Milk Is Udderly Fantastic!
0460	Cheese—the Whey to Go
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0465	Never Give a Heifer a Bum Steer
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0494	Detasslers Have Lots of Pull
0488	Wheat Growers Have Flour Power
0497	Irrigators Are a Bunch of Leakers
0491	Cotton Farming Is No Soft Job
0490	Cotton Comes from a Super Boll
0480	Farming's Worth Crowin' About
0481	We Farm for the Health of It
0482	Ag Is My Bag
0041	I'm Proud to Be a Farm Wife
0519	I'm Proud to Be a Farmer
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0531	Old Ranchers Are Over the Hills
0532	Who Cares About Apathy?

To order any of the above stickers, simply put an "X" in the box beside each sticker you want, and send this entire ad with your payment. Add 25¢ for postage and handling for up to 6 stickers; 50¢ for more than 6.

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FFA IN ACTION

(Pick up the ACTION from Page 53)

operation and maintenance of the school sawmill. The senior class scales, grades and saws the logs which are delivered by the junior class. Another very important portion of the senior curriculum is lumber scaling and grading. Other areas of training in the senior year include fork truck operation, welding, wood utilization and on-the-job training during a co-op training session.

The local timber industry has responded very favorably to this relatively new program in many ways. They have supported many field trips and provided employment for many students through summer employment, co-op training sessions and permanent full-time employment after graduation. These people also provide much advice and direction to the school in the areas of curriculum, equipment and skills needed to provide immediate graduate placement in the local timber industry. *(Larry Marr, Agriculture Supervisor)*

LEATHER ART

Mr. Alson Turner of Greenfield, Indiana, has developed a hobby of leather work into a profitable business for his family and his two sons who are both FFA members of our Greenfield Central FFA Chapter.

Mr. Turner's son Charlie is currently serving as president of the chapter. As a total surprise for his officer initiation gift, his father had made him a leather billfold with a hand-tooled and colored FFA emblem, with a rising sun depicting his office and Charlie's initials on it.

Also as a special gift to the advisor he made a similar billfold with the emblem and an owl. *(J. W. McCain, Advisor)*

THE CHICKEN OR THE EGG

The Wallace-Rose Hill, North Carolina, Agriculture Production 2 class took on a project at the beginning of the school year of 100 baby chicks that were donated by a local firm.

Within eight weeks, 68 of the 100 broilers averaged 4.71 pounds weighed at slaughter. While the chickens were dressed we took a tour of the processing plant. We brought our birds back and the home economics department kept them frozen for us until we needed some for the two barbeque dinners we had at school for the FFA members.

Twenty-five of the 100 birds were grown much slower. After three weeks of age they were put on cornmeal and remained on it until the faster growing broilers were carried to the market.

After slaughtering the rapid growers we decided to put the rest of our chickens (25) on pullet developer to prepare them for layers. There they remained for about ten weeks until they were put on breeder mash for putting the shell on the eggs.

After getting rid of the excess roosters we were left with ten hens. At 21 weeks old we gathered our first eggs. Now they are 25 weeks old and egg production gets better every week.

We have enjoyed our project this year and are planning to have a repeat next year but to add incubation. *(C. J. Barnes, Advisor)*

DOUBLE IMAGE

When the Overton, Texas, FFA voted for chapter sweetheart, there was a tie vote between twins Patty and Susan Stroud. So the officers bought a sweetheart jacket for both honor student juniors.

ACTION LINES

- Collect barbed wire. Or planter plates. Or burlap bags.
- You bring in wood for the fireplace.
- Add some colorful new clothes to your wardrobe.
- Polish your shoes
- Start a free throw competition.
- Spotlight chrysanthemums in bloom.
- Be the first in your chapter to lose five pounds.
- Do you have an FFA windbreaker?
- Do without a couple of cookies next week for dessert.
- Travel in Europe or South America with an FFA Work Experience Abroad.
- Keep a scrapbook of your younger brother and give it to him years later.
- Remember your Grandma or someone else who loves to get mail.
- Sing out loud in church.
- Paint a picture on a slice of wood cut out of that old tree.
- Color a picture in your little brother's coloring book.
- Give away your old ball cap.
- Just go ahead and cry.
- Climb to the top of the windmill.

BACK TO SCHOOL

The Lynchburg-Clay, Ohio, Chapter had a "former member night" and invited them to attend the school basketball game with their families, sit in a marked section and visit the ag classroom to see photos and souvenirs of the past.

HORSES IN HISTORY

You couldn't find a more appropriate place for this competition than Goshen, New York. Goshen, "The Cradle of the Trotter," was again the site of the seventh annual New York State FFA Harness Horse Grooming competition. There, at America's most venerable harness track, Historic, a group of top "horse course" students met to see who was most deft at applying harness, knee boots and all that other equipment and jog a horse around the track for a couple of miles.

FFA members all, the students represented various BOCES from across the state, including the host, Orange-Ulster BOCES in Goshen. (BOCES, acronym for Board of Cooperative Educational Services, is an annex to the state's high school system, enabling juniors and seniors to divide their school time between academics and occupational education.)

Each contestant was supplied with a horse to harness and jog, as a panel of distinguished judges watched their every move. The panel consisted of Harry Pownall, member of the Hall of Fame; Leo McNamara, manager of nearby Pine Hollow, one of the top Standardbred stud farms in the country; Dick Hamilton of the U.S. Trotting Association; and Jack Clark, head of the Department of Animal Science at Cobleskill State University. Helping with the details of the contest and representing FFA was Roy T. Denniston, state advisor.

The "home team" emerged victorious this year. The second-year contest was won by Patricia Beattie, while Joyce Vutianitis came away with the first-year trophy. Both are from Orange County. *(Walter Latzko)*

Below "Trish" Beattie hitches up for her competitive run of the day to exhibit her horsemanship skills. Above, she blankets her horse after the 2-mile run.

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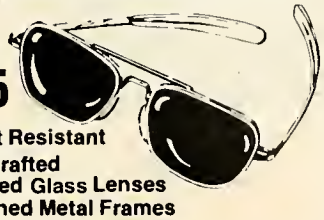
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A Start in Farming From Tight Management and Rented Ground

Nebraska's Jeff Miller expanded his operation by proving himself as a careful farm manager.

THORWALD Miller's farmstead blends 450 acres of row crops with the flat grain-growing countryside surrounding North Bend, Nebraska. The farm, steeped in family tradition and lovingly called "the old homeplace," yields an annual payload of corn, milo, soybeans and wheat. The crops still maturing, long stretches of well-placed plants wait patiently for the coming harvest.

Thorwald, addressed as "Doc" by the locals, rents his ground—has for many years. A deceased millionaire's family owns the farm—and has for many years. But the rent is so reasonable, Doc's son Jeff says, "We've never had the need to buy any farm ground."

The 60-40 partnership with the owners (the Millers receive 60 percent) is a solid, manageable arrangement for the Miller family. The Millers totally control the farming and split the receipts with the owners. Because of the rental arrangement, 18-year-old Jeff hit upon a way to expand his FFA supervised project.

"I actually started my farm project with cattle," says Jeff, past chapter president of the North Bend FFA. "I enjoy working with cattle but because of our restriction on facilities, I haven't been able to build a herd. I've always wanted FFA's State Farmer degree, though, so I knew I should keep my project growing. The answer came in sharing some ground with Dad."

The father-son partnership applied to 30 acres of the Miller farm. Doc wanted to see his son get a start in farming so a "gentleman's agreement" provided the start. It would be up to Jeff to see the project through.

"Dad let me use the 30 acres as compensation for past labor," Jeff explains, recalling the years spent helping with family chores. "I set up corn test plots on the acreage. The seed company furnished the seed and I provided labor, fertilizer and herbicide. I used Dad's equipment, figured the hours on the machinery and paid him for the usage. I cleared $2,000 on the plots, money that I needed for reinvestment."

Doc's ready assistance with land and machinery wasn't just a free gift. Jeff had proven earlier to his father that a young man could successfully manage a farm project. Before entering FFA, Jeff had profited from buying, fattening, showing and selling three commercial calves. Presently the owner of five show calves, Jeff still spends hours readying his animals for area stock events.

Proficient handling of one farm project often leads to avenues for greater respon-

Jeff's painstaking grooming technique reflects his love for showing cattle.

sibility. Along with brother Larry, a sophomore North Bend FFA member, Jeff is now engaged in an 88-head feeder pig operation. Cropland rounds out his integrated program, allowing for feeding of farm-grown grain.

The pigs and crops enterprise didn't sprout up overnight. Several years of stepping-stone expansion and tight management are represented in the equipment, stock and capital goods comprising the project.

"From my first calves and my test plots I made some good money," shares Jeff, "but I've always preferred investment over saving. I save some money in an account but I put most of it back into my project.

"In my sophomore year of high school, I realized that pigs would be more feasible than cattle for our farm. I then went 50-50 with a swine owner on a few hogs. He paid for the feed and I furnished facilities. I did the showing and wound up with a reserve champion."

Although the hogs produced no great income, Jeff's interest in swine was sparked by the partnership arrangement. He later purchased 17 registered Duroc feeder pigs from the North Bend FFA Chapter, a buy that would yield state fair champions in both gilt and barrow classes.

Reflected in his early success with production farming, Jeff's business dealings and contact with older farmers showed him the value of keeping good records. "Careful management is definitely a key to a productive project," asserts Jeff. "You must keep track of efficiency factors such as average daily gain (ADG), litter numbers and mortality rates.

"If I don't know what an animal's rate of gain is, I may lose money by reinvesting in the same type of animal. That animal's ADG may be very bad. Sometimes judges at shows will check ADG records, too."

Jeff also keeps track of pounds fed per pound gained on both his pigs and show calves, a figure he says "shows you what you're getting from what you're putting in.

"With our show beef stock, we feed 3½ to 4 pounds of feed per 1 pound of gain. We once fed ground ear corn to increase roughage consumption but we're using a 'hot' ration now, one more enriched with carbohydrates, fats and proteins. The hot ration seems to increase rate of gain and feed efficiency."

Jeff also closely monitors his swine feeding, providing the hogs a properly rationed mixture of Miller-grown ground fine corn and oats.

"Purebred and crossbred hogs should be fed differently," Jeff advises. "A crossbred usually does a lot of growing then puts on fat. A purebred, though, matures much faster. Past records help you decide what rations to feed and correct amounts for different growth stages."

Rich Nebraska soil, farmed by Jeff and his family for years, bears forth healthy yields of craps such as corn, soybeans and milo.

Naturally, agribusiness and farm production ventures necessitate close money management. Having expanded from a share of 30 acres to 100 percent ownership of 63 acres of corn, soybeans and milo, Jeff has familiarized himself with outside opportunities to better manage his operation. For instance, he participates in government set-aside programs to qualify for certain financial benefits such as disaster payments and commodity loans.

In keeping with government regulations, Jeff pays and maintains his social security tax obligation and files an itemized long form for federal taxes. In filing taxes, Jeff refers to his up-to-date records for statistics needed to properly report his operation's financial standing.

"Vocational agriculture," says Jeff, "was my only class in high school that considered management topics—cash flow, insurance, taxes and others. Vo-ag was my most important class. Without management, you never know where you stand."

Jeff is heading for studies in agricultural economics and animal science at the University of Nebraska. With a strong background in vo-ag, FFA judging and leadership events, stock show organizing and farm business, Jeff Miller will probably always know where he stands—and where he's going.

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When Winter Comes, Winterize

IF you own expensive farm machinery, you should be thinking of winterizing to protect your investments.

Clemson University, South Carolina, agricultural engineers say machines such as combines and cotton pickers are ready for storage as soon as the last beans and pods have been harvested in November and early December.

Even growers who will use their combines again in early spring for small grain crops may have their equipment standing idle for several months.

The engineers suggest these guidelines:

—Clean up equipment by washing off surface accumulations of gum, dirt and oil and inspect it for needed repairs.

—Put antifreeze into water tanks and water-filled tires.

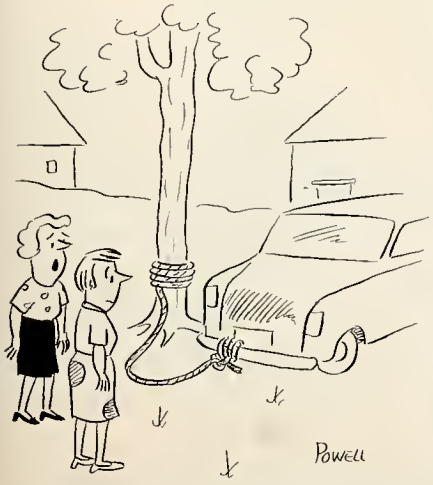
—In small, air-cooled engines, remove the plug and put in a few drops of oil, turning over a couple of times to distribute.

—Fully charge battery, disconnect it and store in a place where it won't freeze.

—Grease, oil, touch up paint and service equipment to have it ready for next season. This prevents rusting and damage to parts.

"Special attention should be given irrigation equipment, too," says engineer Charles Privette. "Like other equipment it should be cleaned up, the battery removed and the engine and workings lubricated. Antifreeze should be put in and the piping system should be drained down below the ground level."

Hoses and any removable parts should go under shelter. By utilizing proper maintenance methods, Old Man Winter won't be as tough on your valuable machinery.



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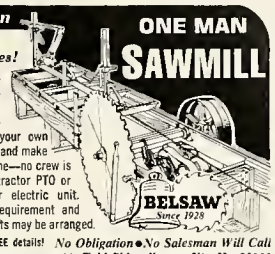

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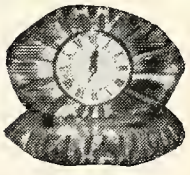
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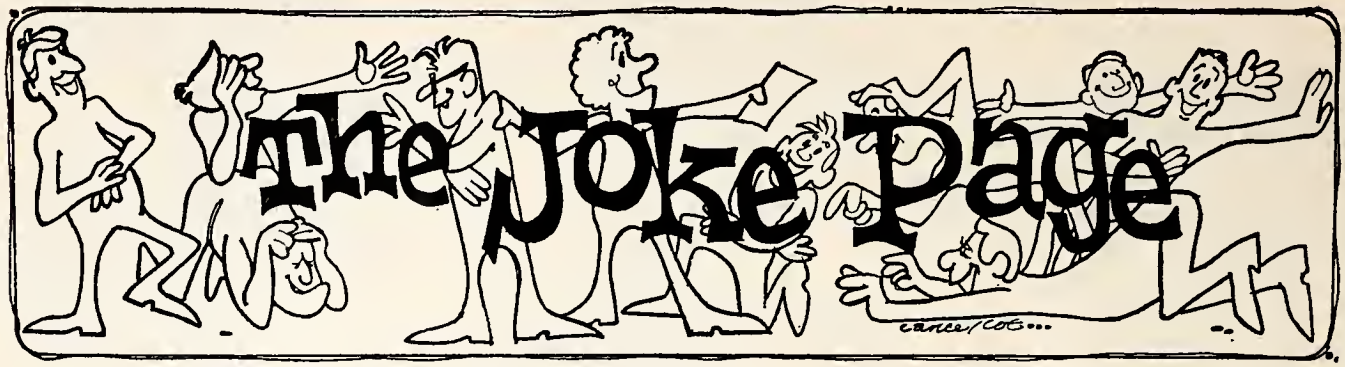

As the farmer's daughter came down the stairs dressed in ragged shirt and jeans, her mother said, *"It's one thing to be a farmer's daughter, but it's another to look like a farmer's son."*

Brenda MacRae
Havana, Kansas

Jon: *"Dad, can you help me find the least common denominator in this math?"*

Father: *"What? Don't tell me they haven't found that yet. They were looking for it when I was in school."*

Karla Nelson
Ellsworth, Wisconsin

"But when you married me you promised to love, honor and obey," the newlywed bride sobbed.

"Yeah," he said, *"but I didn't want to start an argument in front of everybody."*

Chuck Sukut
Sisseton, South Dakota

Jon: *"The doctor told me to drink some lemon juice after a hot bath."*

Tom: *"Well, did you drink it?"*

Jon: *"No, I haven't finished drinking the hot bath yet."*

Steve Hansen
Aurora, Nebraska

"Honey," said a man to his wife, *"I would be the happiest man in the world if you could bake bread like my mother used to bake."*

"Dear," she replied, *"I would be the happiest woman alive if you could make dough like my dad used to."*

John Elyard
Bedford, Pennsylvania

The sheriff of a small Ozark town was also the veterinarian. Late one night the phone rang. An excited voice asked: *"Is Lem there?"*

"Yes," his wife replied: *"Do you want him in his capacity as the vet or sheriff?"*

"Both," came the answer. *"We can't get our bulldog to open his mouth and there's a burglar in it."*

Bobbie Mae Cooley
Bowen, Illinois

A new judge was at a loss as to how to sentence a bootlegger who had pleaded guilty. He called up the former judge and said, *"I've got old Rotgut the bootlegger here, what shall I give him?"*

"Don't give him a cent over $5," said the former judge, *"I never did."*

Norma Keith
Centerville, Ohio

One farmer to another: *"Did you ever wonder what the speed of lightning would be if it didn't stop to zig-zag?"*

Tim Koehn
Apple River, Illinois

The lion sprang upon the bull and devoured him. After he had feasted, he felt so good that he roared. The noise attracted hunters and they killed him. The moral of which is that when you are full of bull you should keep your mouth shut.

Theresa Gartner
Preston, Minnesota

"Two men are outside," someone said to the manager of the ball team. *"They want passes–they say they're friends of the umpire."*

"Throw 'em out," said the manager, *"No umpire's got two friends."*

Jason Moore
Liberty, Kentucky

A medical student, to finance his education, helped a butcher in the morning and went to medical school at night.

One evening, as he wheeled an apprehensive patient into the surgery room, she started screaming. *"Oh, my gosh,"* she screamed, *"It's the butcher!"*

Linda Willadsen
Van Buren, Arkansas

Charlie, the Greenhand

"Actually, I have quite a sizeable cash flow, but it's in the wrong direction."

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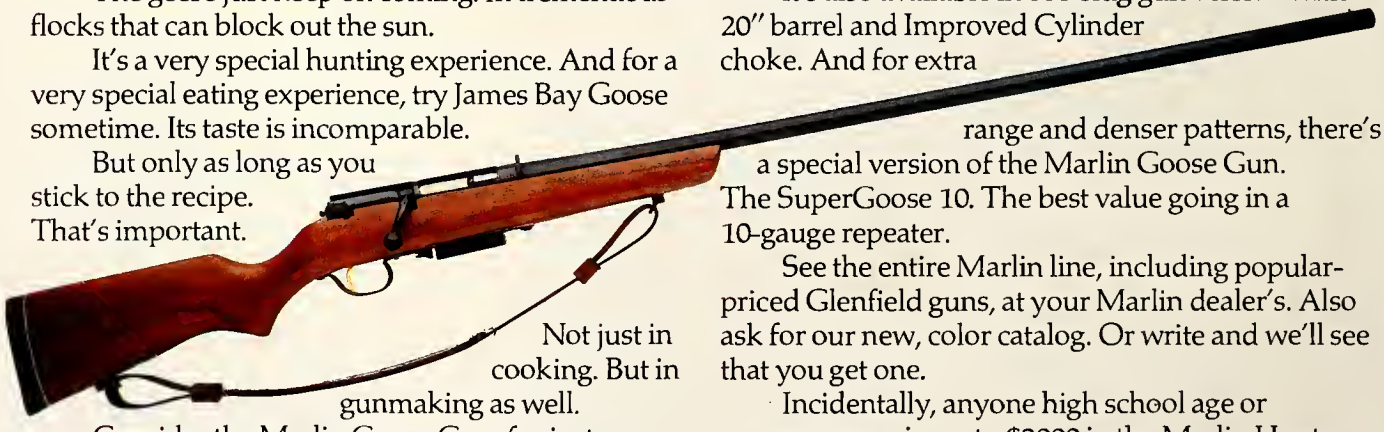

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